



FREE

Kent on Sunday

www.kentnews.co.uk November 19, 2017

North & West edition No 791

CRIME

Murderer claims DNA points to innocence

Latest twist in a notorious crime which stunned Kent

BREXIT

Tokyo eyes county's Brexit opportunities

We head to Japan to learn about how Far East sees our potential

HISTORY

Revealed: Woman behind Churchill

Exhibition begins into life and times of his wife Clementine

TRANSPORT

Relief road for lorry park

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Stack saga shows no sign of applying brakes

WHEN this newspaper breathes its very last next weekend, it would appear the saga of Operation Stack will just be getting its second wind.

We're only sorry we won't still be reporting on it, because it is surely one of the most remarkable situations which impacts on our county.

For almost 30 years now - it was first introduced in 1988 - the M20 has seen its history dominated by the times it is transformed into an enormous lorry park when there is any significant hold-up at the ports.

But the government's failure to actually do anything - other than draw up a frankly ludicrous contingency of diverting lorries to the former Manston Airport site (a move which will gridlock Thanet and the eastern coast roads) - is surely a case of 'out of sight, out of mind'.

Operation Stack, we will all remember, caused chaos in 2015. But it was only when the



Editor **Chris Britcher**

good folk of London found themselves stuck in traffic jams as the summer holidays began the powers that be took it seriously.

Two years on, and with no recurrence of Stack, we're back to the drawing board. And when it happens again everyone will be asking why didn't we do something sooner. Do you ever get the feeling it will just be circling the political agenda for years to come? For the sake of those of us who live and work in Kent a solution needs to be found - and preferably one that doesn't involve our precious green fields being turned into enormous lorry parks.

Next week will be our final issue and we will be reflecting on some of the issues we've covered over the years, the campaigns we've been involved in and basically indulging ourselves a little.

So join us please by grabbing what will surely be something of a collectors' item.

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Heritage aviation part of fresh airport masterplan

By Tom Pyman

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BOSSSES behind the Stone Hill Park (SHP) project are proposing re-opening part of the main runway at Manston Airport for heritage aviation in a new masterplan for the site.

They also confirmed plans to develop 4,000 homes - 1,500 more than initially proposed - including "a small number of properties that could allow residents to park up their vintage plane".

Other features added to the masterplan include an outdoor surf lake, Kent's first Olympic-sized swimming pool and a new link road connecting the site to Westwood Cross shopping centre.

SHP claims the runway plan, which will involve moving Manston's two museums - subject to their agreement - to a new 'Spitfire Quarter' located next to a retained 1,199 metre stretch, makes up part of its pledge "to explore all viable means to both honour and celebrate Manston's aviation history".

The masterplan will go out to public consultation next week,



MASTERPLAN: Stone Hill Park has revised its plans for the former Manston Airport site

featuring events at the Holiday Inn Express, Minster on Monday, and Pegwell Bay Hotel, Ramsgate the following day from 3pm to 8pm, before being included in a separate planning application to Thanet District Council in the new year.

It comes as RiverOak Strategic Partners (RSP) puts the final touches to its own application for a development consent order (DCO) to accelerate its own plans to re-open Manston as an air freight

hub.

Both RSP and SHP will present to members at Kent County Council next week to outline their separate visions for the site. KCC passed a motion in July 2015, saying it intended to keep "an open mind" as to future use of the site.

Stone Hill Park spokesman Ray Mallon said: "We have listened closely to what the public have told us and call on both the public and their elected representatives to

engage and help us deliver a scheme that is right for Manston and Thanet.

"This is a scheme that will not destroy acres of countryside but instead will answer Thanet's housing need; boost the district's economy, and ensure the former airport site isn't turned into a white elephant for years to come."

RSP was contacted for comment but failed to respond at the time of going to press.

KCC to fork out £25m to ease school places shortage in spa town

MORE than £25 million is set to be spent by Kent County Council to expand schools in Tunbridge Wells to help meet a shortage of available places in the town.

Failure to provide a new all-ability secondary school has left education chiefs sweating ahead of next September when they estimate there is a need for dozens of additional Year 7 places.

To combat the shortage, KCC proposes 60 temporary places be provided at each of Bennett Memorial Diocesan School, St Gregory's Catholic School and Tunbridge Wells Grammar School For Boys, as well as a further 10 at The Skinners' School, as we revealed last month.

However, the crisis appears to be worse than first feared as the Judd School in Tonbridge is also being urged to provide an extra 60 temporary places before all five schools undergo a more permanent expansion process.

The expansions require each

school to be provided with additional general teaching spaces, specialist teaching areas and facilities, while the council says curriculum assessments and feasibility studies have been carried out in order to identify the additional accommodation needed for each school project.

Consultation responses show that the schools are generally supportive of the move and Bennett Memorial's executive headteacher Ian Bauckham told us last month additional teachers would be recruited as part of the expansion process, so as not to increase the strain on existing staff.

KCC's children's, young person and educational cabinet committee proposes pumping £6.5m into Bennett Memorial, £3m into Skinners', £6.6m into St Gregory's, £1.5m into Judd and £7.7m into Tunbridge Wells Grammar to fund the expansions.

The committee is recommended to allocate the £25.3m funding when it meets at County Hall on Wednesday.

Train crash probe blames poor signage for collision

RAIL accident investigators have claimed signage at a level crossing where a train and van crashed last month "was not clear".

The 2.20pm Southeastern service from Ramsgate to St Pancras struck a delivery van on the Frog-nal Farm crossing, between Teynham and Sittingbourne stations on October 23.

The train did not derail, and

none of the approximately 80 passengers and crew on board were hurt, however the van was badly damaged, and its driver was taken to hospital with head and upper body injuries.

Changes have since been made to prevent any repeat with clearer signage about calling the signaller before manually opening the crossing.

Don't miss our final ever edition of KoS next weekend

THE very last edition of Kent on Sunday will be printed next weekend - and we'll be taking a special look back in time at a paper which defined the media landscape in the county.

From its humble beginnings it pioneered the approach of free newspapers winning a host of national and regional awards throughout its 15 year history.

Next weekend, in a special edition, we'll be speaking to some of those involved in its creation, former editors and some of the people who benefitted from its coverage and campaigning.

We've had lots of kind letters from readers this week - and if you'd like to feature in our final edition please do not hesitate to email us at editorial@kosmedia.co.uk.



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Son of White Widow 'remains alive in Syria'

THE son of a housewife from Chatham who became one of Britain's most wanted Isis terrorists is still alive, reports claim.

Sally Jones - nicknamed the White Widow - is understood to have been killed in a drone strike in Syria in June, but the fate of her 12-year-old son, Jojo, was unknown.

However, sources now claim Jojo remains alive, and was some 35 miles away in the village of al-Shaafa near the eastern border with Iraq at the time of the attack on his mother.

Jones, 50, was a former punk rocker who became an extremist after marrying Junaid Hussain and fled to Syria in 2013.

Mother and boyfriend jailed over tragic death of five-month-old baby

By Tom Pyman

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THE mother of a five-month-old baby boy who was found with "catastrophic brain injuries" and cocaine in his system has been jailed along with her boyfriend.

Katherine Cox, 33, and Danny Shepherd, 25, were arrested after Eli Cox died in hospital and were convicted of causing or allowing the death of a child in August.

Two weeks earlier, little Eli had fallen ill at the family home in Lapwing Close, Minster. A post-mortem revealed he had suffered a "catastrophic brain injury consistent with being shaken and hitting his head."

He was also found with 28 bone fractures, which doctors believed he suffered over a 10-week period, along with traces of cocaine and amphetamine in his system.

A Maidstone Crown Court jury heard how an ambulance was called to the family home on April 13 when



GUILTY: Katherine Cox

Eli had stopped breathing.

He was rushed to Medway Maritime Hospital, where a paediatrician noticed a number of bruises, believed to have been caused intentionally.

Police were called in, and evidence from doctors revealed Eli's brain injury must have happened moments before his collapse, while the broken bones may have been suffered during five separate incidents.

Both Cox, a mum-of-nine, and Shepherd denied being users of cocaine and amphetamine, despite five wraps of the latter substance being found by police in a garden shed at their home.

On Tuesday, Cox was jailed for eight years and Shepherd for 13-and-a-half years.

Senior investigating officer detective chief inspector Ivan Beasley said: "The death of a child is never anything less than tragic but the circumstances behind Eli Cox's passing are especially upsetting for those of us who share a compassion for others."

"None of us will ever understand what compels people to cause harm to children, and it is unfortunately true to say that Eli suffered more than most and was robbed of his life before it had barely begun."



STAR: Yado Mambo sparked debate

Mambo No5 shirt to raise charity cash

NATIONAL League side Ebbsfleet United are to auction off an exclusive 'Mambo No. 5' shirt in a bid to raise hundreds of pounds for charity.

During Fleet's recently televised National League clash with Leyton Orient, fans sensed a missed opportunity when they noticed defender Yado Mambo wearing the number 18 jersey.

Instead, they argued, he should have been wearing number five, as a nod to the popular 1999 hit by German artist Lou Bega.

Now the club appears to have jumped on the social media frenzy as an opportunity to raise valuable cash for Prostate Cancer UK, putting an XL-sized home shirt, with 'Mambo No. 5' on the back, on eBay.

Bidding was up to £370 this week with the auction due to end next Thursday. The club said: "It was something we noted six years ago on Yado's debut but nonetheless, messages have poured in imploring us to swap our squad numbers around so that Mambo and No. 5 can be united in perfect musical harmony."

"And we have caved in. Well, sort of."

The winner will receive the shirt as well as a certificate of authenticity with a signed photograph of Mambo holding the shirt.

Warning after kids cycle 'towards traffic'

POLICE are urging parents of young children and teenagers to remind them to cycle safely after reports of groups riding between traffic.

Officers have received calls where the groups are reported to be cycling dangerously in the road and also towards oncoming traffic before quickly turning away.

Around 30 reports have been made in the Gillingham and Chatham areas since October - usually after school and at weekends. The children are reported to be aged between 10 and 18.

Sergeant Adam Duke of Medway's community safety unit said: "We want young people and teenagers to enjoy riding their bikes however we have received a number of reports where cyclists are said to be cycling towards oncoming traffic."

"This is extremely dangerous behaviour and an accident waiting to happen. If your young child or teenager is cycling around Medway please chat with them and remind them it is their responsibility to ride safely for them and others on the road."

Elphicke calls on PM for £1bn Brexit cash

CHARLIE Elphicke reiterated his call for a £1 billion investment to upgrade roads and border systems ahead of Brexit in his first statement in the House of Commons since being suspended by the Conservatives.

The Dover and Deal MP has long pressed for the government to make commitments in his constituency and made the case once again this week before chancellor Philip Hammond puts the final touches to his budget, which will be announced next week.

Mr Elphicke - sat on the Conservative benches, but labelled an 'Independent' by the parliament website - asked Theresa May if the government would "consider earmarking at least £1bn in the upcoming budget to make sure we are ready on day one, deal or no deal, and prepared for every single eventuality".

The PM said: "We have already made funds available for the preparations and work that is necessary across government in preparations for Brexit - and of course we will be looking at what further work is necessary to ensure we are ready."

Duo plead not guilty to murder of teen

NOT guilty pleas have been entered by two people charged with the murder of Gillingham teenager Kyle Yule.

Detectives charged Victor Maibvisira, 19, of St Johns Road, with murder along with a 16-year-old boy, who cannot be named due to his age.

Both appeared before Maidstone Crown Court on Tuesday where they pleaded not guilty to the charge of murdering the 17-year-old.

They were remanded and a provisional trial date has been set for Monday, April 9 next year.

Officers launched a murder enquiry after Kent Police was called to East Street at 8.10pm on October 6 where Kyle was fatally injured.

A number of people were reported to be causing criminal damage to a silver Renault Clio shortly before Kyle was stabbed and later died in hospital.

In a tribute, the victim's mother said last month: "My beautiful son Kyle much loved, as loved as one could be, for you were everything in life you meant the world to me."

Number of new homes built in county hits a seven-year high

By Tom Pyman

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ALMOST 8,000 new homes have been built across the county in the last year - the highest number since 2009 - according to government figures.

The data, released on Thursday to coincide with a keynote speech by the prime minister on the UK's housing market, represents a significant increase of more than 500 homes on the previous 12 months.

The figures demonstrate the "net additions to dwellings stock" in each local authority area, therefore taking into account conversions, changes of use and demolitions of existing homes as well as new-builds.

Of the 7,859 total, Dartford and Maidstone were the areas where the most homes were completed - 1,162 and 1,145 respectively - while just 165 were built in Gravesham in 2016/17.

It is the largest annual figure seen in the county since 2008/09, with numbers falling to as low as 3,700 in 2012/13.

It comes as Theresa May and the Department for Communities and Local Government face pressure from Kent councils and MPs over plans for thousands more homes in the county over the coming decades.

In Medway, the government has proposed



HOUSING: Dartford and Maidstone has seen the bulk of the building so far

that bosses need to provide almost 9,000 more homes, on top of the near-30,000 already earmarked in its local plan.

However, MPs say the plans are likely to be undeliverable in a county where so much of the land is classed as either Green Belt, an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, or a Site of Special Scientific Interest and have urged the prime minister to re-assess the proposals, and concentrate building efforts in locations such as the Midlands and the North rather than the "over-crowded" south east.

Mrs May said: "For decades we simply have not been building enough homes, nor have we been building them quickly enough, and we have seen prices rise.

"The number of new homes being delivered each year has been increasing since 2010, but there is more we can do.

"We must get back into the business of building the good quality new homes for people who need them most. This will be a long journey and it will take time for us to fix the broken housing market."

Pub toilets scoop top Loo of the Year gong

TWO Wetherspoon pubs in Maidstone have won acclaim for the quality and standards of their toilets in the Loo of the Year Awards 2017.

The Muggleton Inn in High Street and The Society Rooms in Week Street have both been awarded a platinum star rating by inspectors - the highest award possible.

The awards are aimed at improving standards of 'away from home' toilet provision across the UK.

Boots staff member faces court case

A 27-year-old woman from Chatham has been charged with stealing cash from the tills of the major high street chain store she was working at.

It is alleged Maria Snelgrove, of Lambeth Close, pinched the money while working at Boots in Chatham. She will appear at Maidstone Crown Court on November 29.

Memorial consultation

TWO public events will be held next week for people to have their say on the proposed Commonwealth War Memorial on the Western Heights in Dover - featuring the names of all 1.7 million Commonwealth men and women who perished.

The events will be held at Dover Library in the Market Square on November 22 from 2pm to 7pm and November 25 from 10am to 3pm.

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£500,000 facelift for pier on its diamond anniversary

A £500,000 refurbishment of Deal Pier has been given the green light as the popular landmark celebrates its diamond anniversary.

Works are set to include resurfacing the pier, replacing all the timber seating along the pier, and concrete repairs to the pier structure.

It is intended that work on the resurfacing and seating will begin in the spring of 2018, and the aim is maintain access as much as possible throughout the works. Structural works are expected to start before the end of the year.

Deal has had a pier since the late 1800s, with the current 305m long structure opened on November 19, 1957 by Prince Philip. It remains the last pleasure pier ever constructed in the UK.

Today, it is one of the town's



enduring attractions, popular with both townsfolk and visitors for a leisurely stroll to enjoy the panoramic views of the coastline and out into the English Channel.

Trevor Bartlett, cabinet member

for property management said: "Deal Pier is a fantastic asset for the area, it's a major local landmark that's visited by many thousands of people, and we're very pleased to be able to approve these works."

Hunt hails recovery of troubled county hospital

STAFF at Medway Maritime Hospital have been hailed by the health secretary for doing "a fantastic job" in pulling it out of special measures.

Action was first taken at Medway NHS Foundation Trust in July 2013 following a review of hospitals with higher than average mortality rates.

Since then, however, the trust has been on an upward curve, following the appointment of Lesley Dwyer as chief executive and exited special measures earlier this year.

Jeremy Hunt was quizzed on the issue by Rochester and Strood MP Kelly Tolhurst, who said: "A few months ago Medway hospital came out of special measures, with its improvement to patient safety being one of the most notable

highlights in the report. Given the success in my local area, can [Mr Hunt] inform the house what progress he has made to boost patient safety across the rest of the country?"

In response, he said: "I had a very good visit to Medway recently and I think Lesley Dwyer and her team are doing a fantastic job there. They had real challenges to turn that trust around but they succeeded and the staff did amazingly well. The truth is we still have far too high levels of avoidable harm across the NHS. I want us to be the safest in the world and that's why in the next few months, we will see campaigns to improve maternity safety, to deal with medication error and to improve transparency when there are avoidable deaths."

Tributes to 'loved' father

TRIBUTES have been paid to a father who was killed after being hit by a car while crossing the road in Watling Street, Gillingham last Monday.

In a statement, his family said he had saved the lives of others, having signed up to be an organ donor prior to his death.

Chaos as lorry flips over

DRIVERS heading towards the Kent coast faced travel chaos this week after a lorry overturned on the M20.

The crash shut the motorway on Tuesday evening and lane closures remained in place throughout Wednesday morning between junctions 10 and 11.

Paedophile jailed for life

A PAEDOPHILE has been jailed for life after being convicted of raping a young child at his home in New Romney.

Barry Gibbens, 52, of The Meadows, committed a number of other sexual offences against his victim between May 2013 and November 2015.

Curry house wins award

A CURRY house in West Kingsdown has been named the best in the south east.

The Rajdani won the title of Best Indian Restaurant in the South East at the prestigious Asian Curry Awards 2017 staged at a glitzy bash at the Grosvenor House Hotel in London last weekend.

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'Food set to rot in lorries'

By Tom Pyman

tom.pyman@archant.co.uk

FAILURE to introduce a new customs system by the date of Brexit in 2019 would see food being left to rot in trucks at the Port of Dover, a parliamentary report has warned.

The House of Commons Public Accounts Committee said the number of customs declarations which HM Revenue and Customs must process each year could increase almost five-fold after the UK's departure from the European Union - from 55 million to 255 million.

But HMRC does not yet have the funding to increase the capacity of its new Customs Declaration Service to deal with the consequences of Brexit, said the committee.

Its report warns that "much remains to be done" to have an effective CDS system in place on time and urged the Treasury to ensure that funding is in place to develop contingency plans to avoid gaps in the service.

It would be "catastrophic" if CDS is "not ready in time and if there is no viable fall-back option", the cross-party committee concluded.

The warning comes a month after Dover MP Charlie Elphicke held a panel discussion in the House of Com-



ROTTEN: Customs arrangements post-Brexit could have a huge impact on the food industry

mons, where industry chiefs accused the government of not providing enough direction or certainty.

Tony Smith, a former Border Force director general, admitted he wasn't sure the full processes would be in place in time for March 2019, when Britain leaves the EU for good, while another Tory MP claimed progress stalled immediately after the referen-

dum last June because the government was "paralysed by fear and did not know what to do".

The Port of Dover has repeatedly warned that queues of lorries will stretch back some 17 miles across Kent's roads if ministers fail to negotiate a deal with Brussels.

A government spokesman said in response to the report: "The Customs

Declaration Service is on track for delivery by January 2019 and has the capacity to deal with a significant increase in customs declarations at the border.

"We've already allocated over half a billion pounds in funding to ensure a successful exit from the EU and we will have a fully functioning UK customs service on day one post-Brexit."

'Terrifying' burglar jailed

A BURGLAR who inflicted a "terrifying attack on an innocent family" near Longfield has been jailed.

Dean Kenny, 28, of Frobisher Way in Greenhithe, stormed into a family home armed with a knife and left one of his victims with serious injuries.

But two others suspects who joined Kenny in the raid are still at large.

Anyone with information is urged to call on 01474 366 149 quoting XY/001401/17 or alternatively contact Crimestoppers, anonymously, on 0800 555 111

Uni calls for home reforms

THE University of Kent has called for a new housing act to be introduced - five months on from the Grenfell Tower fire.

Some 71 people were killed in the tragedy in west London in June and now academics, with colleagues from the University of Bristol, have carried out research for the housing charity Shelter and found housing laws that are "out-dated, complex and patchily enforced".

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Brutal killer claims DNA could clear his name of vile murder

Mother-of-two Susan Kent was found dead at her home in 1999, but convicted David Ferguson insists he is innocent

By Chris Murphy
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

A NOTORIOUS murderer, found guilty of the brutal killing of his former girlfriend, is insisting fresh DNA tests could clear his name.

David Ferguson was jailed for life for the murder of mother-of-two Susan Kent, 33, at her home in Hempstead, near Gillingham, in November 1999.

The part-time child-minder and dinner lady was found lying in a pool of her own blood, hand-cuffed and half naked. She had been stabbed a number of times, her throat cut and is thought to have been sexually assaulted.

Following a major police hunt, former print worker Ferguson, from Chatham - who had befriended her at the Casino Rooms in Rochester the previous year - was arrested and charged with her murder.

A police investigation discovered he

fantasised about rape and violence towards women, had searched up related topics online and sent emails to other web users who shared his fascination.

He appeared before a jury at Maidstone Crown Court and denied he was guilty. But a jury disagreed and he was jailed for life, being told he must serve at least 20 years.

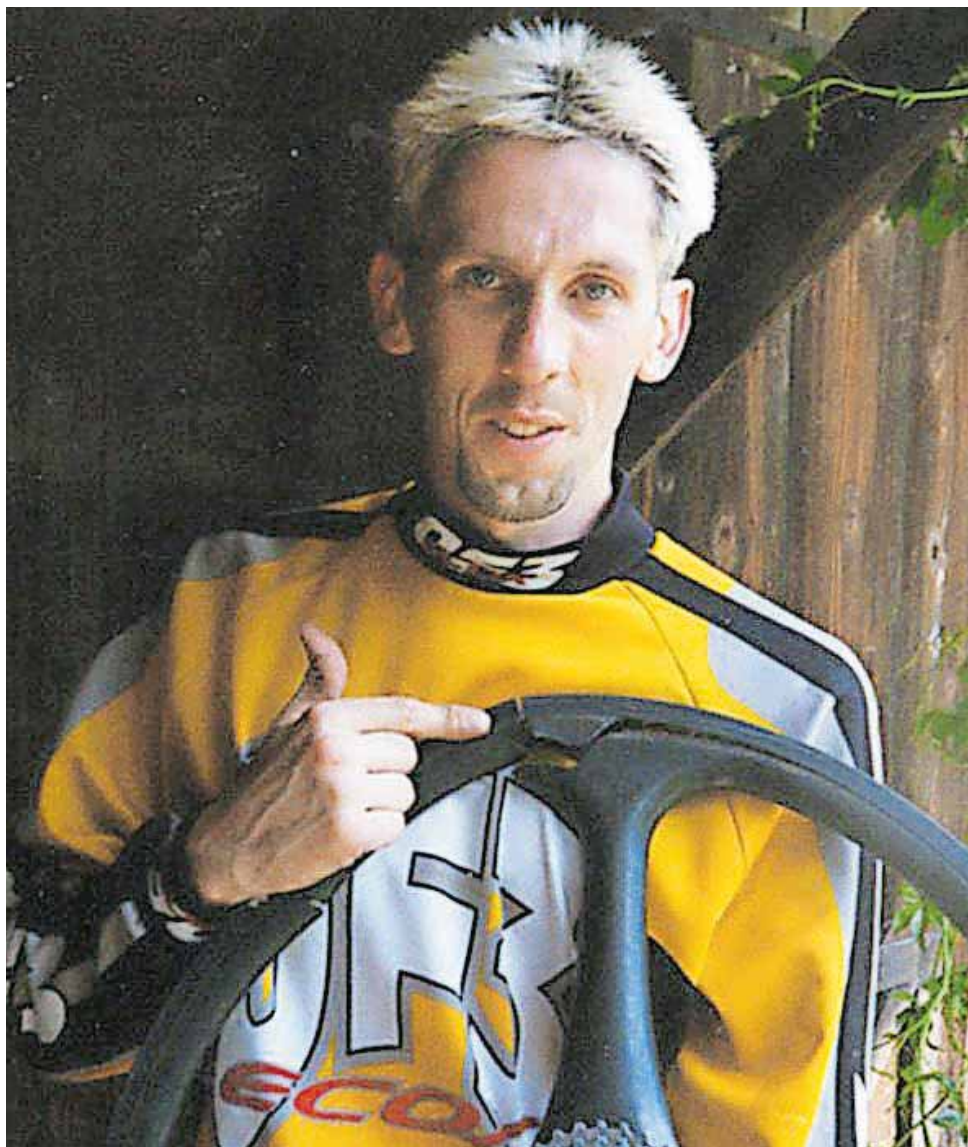
A psychologist at the time wrote that he had discovered Ferguson had "sado-masochistic sexual activity". That also included using threats and weapons. The medic wrote that he enjoyed deviant sexual arousal which is "notoriously difficult to change".

Now 47, he is considered a 'category A' prisoner and is jailed at the high security HMP Wakefield in West Yorkshire. Just two years ago, it was revealed he had married his pen-pal, Carol Nash, while behind bars.

But he updates a blog site proclaiming his innocence - with his latest claims being passed to his legal team in the hope of lodging an appeal against his conviction.



TESTS: The killer claims new DNA tests could prove he was not at the scene



THEN: Ferguson pictured at around the time of the killing - he is serving a life term in a top security jail

Kent Police, however, have dismissed his claims saying a "thorough investigation" was carried out at the time.

Writing to KoS, his wife, Carol Nash, is supporting his latest claims of innocence which query vital DNA evidence linking him to the crime scene.

She wrote: "New DNA 17 and Y-23 forensic tests prove that Kent Police and the CPS [Crown Prosecution Service] misled David Ferguson's trial jury in regards to the reliability and strength of the DNA match to the murder of Susan Kent in 1999."

DNA 17 is the latest generation of DNA profiling now being used by scientists in court proceedings.

Writing on his blog, Ferguson explains: "On October 19, I received a copy of the new forensic report. It's findings are vastly different to what the police and CPS presented as being factual at my trial in respect of the acclaimed DNA match."

"The crime scene samples [the two samples were considered the most significant by prosecutors] were re-tested using the two most current and significantly more reliable DNA testing procedures. These being DNA17 and Y-23 testing."

He said these samples clearly cast major doubt on the police and CPS claims that he was at the house at all, because the test results could also

match 486 other people in Kent alone.

He quotes the unnamed female scientist's report as concluding: "As partial DNA results were obtained there were bands missing and so there is the potential that if information was identified in these areas this may not match the profile of Mr Ferguson and therefore could exclude or suggest he was not a contributor of DNA to the result. Therefore, if other bands readings (DNA components) were identified then the interpretation of these profiles may change."

And Mr Ferguson said: "This is all crucial evidence that the police's forensic examiner omitted from his evidence and, as such, misled my trial jury."

"Those who have read my blogs regularly will know of the 2011 trial of Vincent Simpson for the 1980 murder of Elizabeth McCabe. During this trial Dr Jonathan Whitaker head of the Forensic Science Service's Wetherby lab and acting on behalf of the police admitted that just one missing DNA band reading was sufficient to cast doubt on a DNA sample matching an accused suspect. Vincent Simpson was subsequently exonerated."

"The new forensic report has now been sent to my barrister for his consideration."

But Kent Police says it believes a thorough investigation had already

been done.

We put Mr Ferguson's claims to the constabulary and a spokesman told us: "Detectives from Kent Police carried out a full and thorough investigation into the murder of Susan Kent following her death in November 1999."

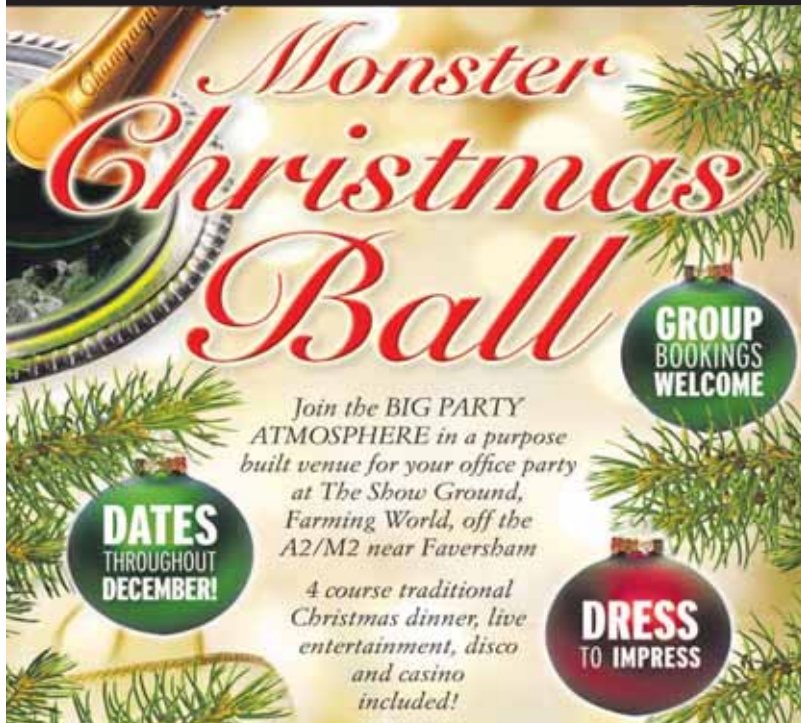
"As a result of their enquiries, officers arrested and charged David Ferguson with Susan's murder and a jury were able to consider all the available evidence before finding him guilty."

"This included DNA samples which detectives and the Crown Prosecution Service argued placed Ferguson at the scene and in direct contact with Susan when he had no reasonable excuse for being there."

"In 2016, Kent Police complied with a request from Mr Ferguson's legal representatives to supply them with exhibits from the case however Kent Police has received no notification of a formal appeal process."

Mrs Kent, who had divorced from the father of her two children, was found by her mother-in-law after she failed to arrive in time to collect her daughter from school. She had been seen on CCTV footage shopping at the Hempstead Valley centre in Gillingham earlier that morning. That was the last known sighting of her alive. She was found dead later that afternoon.

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Stack park plan hits reverse in surprise U-turn

Just when you think we're edging close to a way of solving Operation Stack, the government goes back to the drawing board with its thinking

By Tom Pyman

tom.pyman@archant.co.uk

THE £250m lorry park proposed to deal with the problems caused by Operation Stack was sensationally scrapped by the government this week - but construction of a similar facility remains a possibility.

Highways England announced on Wednesday the development - earmarked for Stanford West, near junction 11 of the M20 - would no longer be built as initially planned and that it was instead looking at alternative options for when there is disruption at the Channel ports.

The project was the subject of a judicial review, lodged by local campaigners opposed to the plans, but the Department for Transport stunned industry bosses by revealing it was withdrawing its appearance at the hearing next month, and that it was returning to the drawing board to find a more suitable long-term solution.

Chiefs appear to have recognised the change in climate since the vote to leave the European Union last June, which came after the lorry park plans were first announced by former chancellor George Osborne in 2015 - a quick reaction to the chaos of that summer, where strikes in France and the growing migrant crisis saw trucks regularly queuing on the motorway.

However, Operation Stack has not been seen in the county since, which has sparked much of the concern as to whether such a project is necessary.

Now, Highways England will develop new plans for a permanent lorry parking solution, with a consultation taking place next year ahead of a planning application in 2019.

An interim innovative plan is also being developed to allow motorists to carry on using the M20 in both directions when Stack is implemented, thus minimising the impact on Kent's

economy as well as residents.

This could, for example, see a dual carriage-way created on the M20 by using moveable or steel barriers to safely store lorries in the centre of the motorway.

A final decision on the best interim measure will be made in early 2018, with a view to be implemented by March 2019, just in time for Britain's formal exit from the EU, when many fear severe delays at the ports.

It represents a significant U-turn, however, coming just weeks after ministers insisted they were committed to the Stanford West project in a Commons debate secured by Folkestone and Hythe MP Damian Collins.

Highways England project director John Kerner said: "The disruption that people in Kent suffered in summer 2015 underlines the need for long term improvements to how traffic is managed when cross-Channel services are interrupted.

"Improvements at the port, and changes we have made to traffic management on the A20 near Dover, have delivered real improvements and have also helped prevent Operation Stack from being implemented.

"Along with our partners we are better prepared than ever, but a better plan for dealing with more widespread disruption is still needed.

"Now that the government has withdrawn the decision to build a lorry area at Stanford West, we have been asked by the transport secretary to immediately develop both an interim and a permanent solution to reduce the local traffic impacts if there is cross-Channel disruption.

"Highways England is committed to delivering the government's aim of finding a solution that makes Operation Stack less disruptive for people and businesses in Kent, and the improvements we are taking forward will help to do just that."



PAIN: Few will forget the impact when Stack is brought into place

North & West

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ABOVE: Damian Collins says he thinks his constituency will see a park eventually

LEFT: Matthew Webb of Stanford Parish Council chair Matthew Webb, who has led much of the opposition to

Roads minister Jesse Norman added: "We know how seriously the lives of Kent residents and the prospects of businesses were affected when Operation Stack was implemented in 2015 and we remain fully committed to a permanent solution.

"However, we need to go through the proper procedures to ensure our plans, which include a lorry park, best fit the needs of Kent and the freight

industry."

The government also confirmed that an agreement with Stone Hill Park, the owners of the former Manston Airport, had been extended to allow the site to continue to be used in an emergency situation, should Stack rear its head once again.

The news was celebrated by Stanford Parish Council chair Matthew Webb, who has led much of the opposition to

the plans over the last two years.

He told KoS: "I have always said we have delayed this long enough and there's a chance the change in the political scene and environment would make people see that this was not a solution, and that it was a knee-jerk reaction to what happened two-and-a-half years ago.

"The problem we face now is what happens after Brexit. Confidence has

been building in recent weeks because since the start of the year absolutely nothing had been done by Highways England in relation to the lorry park.

"If the government was asking them to sit on it for that long, the writing was on the wall. Maybe they have come around to the idea that we need a more flexible, integrated approach rather than a sledgehammer of a lorry park.

"Clearly they need to address the issue of what we need for customs clearance post-Brexit and if they have £250m lying around they may want to spend that on improving facilities in the right places.

"But from our point of view, it's fantastic and shows that people shouldn't just roll over because the government

■ Continued on page 16

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North & West

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Week ending November 19, 2017 **13**

■ Continued from page 15

says something has to be done. We live in a democracy, last time I checked. "If we hadn't stood up and said something, this thing could have been half-built by now. I've got huge pride in the way the village has come together."

However, Damian Collins insisted he was confident plans for a substantial lorry park in his constituency were by no means off the table for good.

"The government remains committed to providing a long term solution to Operation Stack in Kent through off road lorry parking," he said.

"This could still be built at the Stanford West site. This delay is disappointing, but interim measures will be introduced until the lorry park is open.

"The long term solution to Operation Stack must allow the M20 to flow in both directions even when there are delays at the Channel Tunnel and Port of Dover.

"It is even more important with Brexit in March 2019, that we have measures in place to deal with potential congestion."

KoS understands a lorry park similar in size, being built on the same site, but one which could also deal with customs clearance and other Brexit-related functions, is among the possibilities being considered by the government.

Another solution could be a lorry park somewhere along the M2/A2 corridor after the Department for Transport gave the green light to the Lower Thames Crossing east of Gravesend earlier this year, which is expected to be a key route to the Channel ports.

While campaigners celebrated the

news, the Federation of Small Businesses (FSB) feared going back to square one would create uncertainty for firms around the county.

National chairman Mike Cherry said: "Operation Stack brings gridlock to vast swathes of Kent, leaving local businesses cut off from customers and supplies.

"It is deeply disappointing that the search for a solution appears to have gone right back to square one and that even an interim solution may not be in place for another 16 months.

"While proper planning procedures must be followed, action needs to be taken urgently to prevent the risk of further chaos.

"This announcement by the government that it is no longer defending a judicial review over the planned lorry park near the M20 means that Highways England is now having to go back to the drawing board to find a solution to the traffic chaos which has blighted the life of so many residents and local businesses in the south east but also impacted on the national supply chain too.

"Given Dover is Europe's busiest international ferry port and handles £100bn of trade annually, we urge the government to implement an interim plan as soon as possible – ensuring disruption is kept to a minimum."

Faversham and Mid Kent MP Helen Whately also expressed concerns, saying: "As we saw two summers ago, closing the M20 during Operation Stack has a terrible impact on Kent, with roads brought to a standstill, businesses unable to function and patients delayed getting to hospital.

"I've been calling for a lorry park off



PORTS: Any problems at the likes of Dover can lead to a backlog of freight lorries on our motorway network

the M20 to help solve the problem, and I'm disappointed to hear today that this has been held up further.

"I have always said that the key to avoiding a repeat of the chaos of summer 2015 is to make sure traffic can continue to flow in both directions on the M20 when Operation Stack is in place. So I welcome that the government has been thinking creatively about ways to do this.

"In my previous meetings with

Highways England I have found that they were reluctant to consider innovative solutions.

"The new proposal to hold lorries in the middle of the motorway using mobile barriers, while allowing traffic to continue to travel in both directions, suggests to me they are being much more ambitious in their thinking.

"This will be a temporary solution, and we still need a proper alternative to Operation Stack. The government is

now getting straight on with trying to get a lorry park approved through the normal planning process.

"As part of this it is broadening its scope and thinking of ways to address the broader problems of fly-parking and the potential impact of Brexit – as well as Operation Stack.

"I will be scrutinising these proposals as they emerge and pressing the government and Highways England to get on with this urgently."

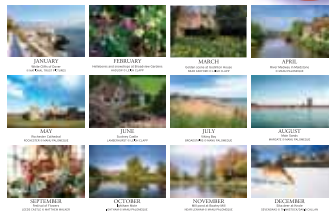
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Tokyo eyes county in Brexit opportunities

Far East business chiefs are aware of Kent's potential and see the chance to build on relationships once we leave EU

By Chris Murphy
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

INDUSTRY and tourism bosses in Tokyo are seeking closer links with Kent in the wake of Brexit.

With prime minister Theresa May insisting Brexit will come into effect on March 29, 2019, the need to establish strong trade links with other markets outside of Europe is becoming more intense in order to ensure our prosperity moving forward.

For Kent, a more challenging relationship with our near neighbours on the continent is one being watched closely by businesses - thus the need to look further afield as the date of the severing of ties with the EU edges closer.

KoS attended the Japanese city to meet business chiefs at the Tokyo Convention and Visitor's Bureau.

Satoru Yamada, the assistant manager at the bureau, explained: "We hope to increase our links with Kent and indeed the rest of the UK in the coming years."

"We are important markets for

each other and each have much to offer."

"Japan is a leader in technology and we want to increase our footprint overseas."

"Kent looks like an excellent market place, especially as it is on the doorstep to the rest of Europe."

Professional business translator and tourism guide Momoko Nakata is equally enthusiastic about Kent.

She said: "Language is not as large a barrier to doing business as it once was, but I am being asked to sit in more and more meetings to translate between Japanese to English to ensure everyone is on the same page."

"Seeing more business links with Kent would be wonderful for both Tokyo and Kent."

Mrs Nakata took us to several areas of Tokyo where business interests in Kent could take advantage.

These included Harajuku, known as the teen district jam packed with hundreds of shops selling the very latest in fashions and accessories to eager youngsters rich with their parents' wallets.

She said: "Companies in Kent offer-

ing these products could do very well here."

"Tokyo's teenagers are always after the next big thing, and someone in Kent could well take advantage."

Among the many shrines and temples in the city, there are also plenty of areas that offer entertainment.

Mr Yamada said: "We have two per cent unemployment, new business ideas are vital and there is no reason why investment can run in both directions."

Mrs Nakata later took our group to leading tourism spots like the Shibuya Crossing, Nakamise shopping, Ginza's high end district, and Shinjuku.

Theodoric Chew is the head of affiliate and content marketing at leading tourism company Voyagin Pte. Ltd.

He told us: "Boosting links between Kent and Tokyo is important to us too."

"We rely on tourists coming to visit places like the Robot Restaurant for a surreal evening of entertainment, to going on trips to the area of Hakone and Mount Fuji with a return to the

city on board our famous bullet trains."

"The city and its surroundings has plenty to offer, and with better business links to Britain and the south east, success on both sides is assured."

Jo James, chief executive at Kent In-victa Chamber of Commerce, also

welcomes the increased interest in the county.

She said: "Boosting our links with Tokyo would benefit companies on both sides of the world."

"And interestingly enough, over the past month I have been contacted by several countries looking at building ties with Kent including the Phil-



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ippines and Malaysia.

"Adding Japan and Tokyo especially to that list would be beneficial for so many Kent companies.

"With Brexit talks continuing, adding to concerns about what our business links with the rest of the world are going to look like, having some interest already is certainly an ad-

vantage.

"We are always willing to reach out to other business communities in order to find common ground and map out pathways to success."

Alan Jarrett, leader of Medway Council, added: "Medway is extremely proud of its links with Japan. Each year thousands of residents attend



the Will Adams Festival in Gillingham Park which celebrates the life of the Elizabethan adventurer and Japanese culture.

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would be fantastic to further our business relationship. It would also be a great opportunity for Medway's 14,000 businesses to establish international links with the country. Gillingham is already home to three Jap-

anese businesses, Hochiki, Fuji Seal and Fuji Copian, and it would be fantastic to see more. Business is booming in Medway, with more moving to the area, and we would be delighted to welcome international trade."

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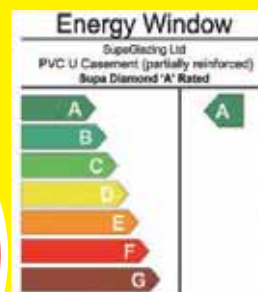
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How Clementine was the rock behind icon

A special exhibition starts this weekend on the life and times of Winston Churchill's wife at their Chartwell home

By Chris Murphy
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

BEHIND every great man, the saying goes, is a great woman. And for 56 years, Clementine Churchill was the wife of perhaps the greatest Britain of all - Sir Winston Churchill.

The couple lived for many years at Chartwell - the Kent retreat now a popular tourist attraction managed by the National Trust.

And a special exhibition which starts this weekend aims to put the spotlight on a woman who was so integral to the iconic figure.

The Right Honourable Baroness Spencer-Churchill's life is the centre-piece of a new exhibition which opens at Chartwell called Clementine Churchill: Speaking for Herself, which focuses on the extraordinary life of the former prime minister's beloved wife some 40 years after she died.

It will feature items never been seen in public before, including treasured

childhood photographs and a portrait by Paul Maze, the last of the post-impressionists.

Displays at Chartwell will feature over 60 objects from her life, from personal mementoes such as photos and private letters, along with several gifts that she received from family, friends and even political contacts.

One heartfelt letter that can be read came from Clementine to Winston the morning after their engagement.

It sits alongside her stunning ruby engagement ring.

She was a devoted wife for more than 56 years and mother to the couple's five children.

The exhibition touches on her early life too. Her mother Lady Blanche Hozier was well known for taking lovers while married to Henry Montague Hozier who caught her with one in 1891. As it turns out, an embarrassing divorce was averted thanks to his own indiscretions. So the pair separated.

The mother claimed Clementine was fathered by Captain William Middleton, but a biographer claimed the father of all the 'Hozier' children were

by her own sister's husband, Algonon Bertram Freeman-Mitford, the 1st Baron Redesdale, grandfather to the Mitford sisters.

In 1899, Clementine's mother moved the family to Dieppe where the 14-year-old is said to have flirted with an older man and at 18 got engaged twice to Sir Sidney Peel.

During her youth, she was active in sports like horse riding, swimming, golf, skiing and tennis. Her husband took her on only at croquet.

During the war, Clementine was heavily involved behind the scenes and was chairwoman of the Red Cross Aid to Russia Fund.

After peace she was given the title of 'dame'.

Winston died aged 90 in 1965 leaving Clementine a widow and she was made a life peer.

A heart attack killed Lady Spencer-Churchill, 92, at her home in Knightsbridge 13 years after Winston's death. She also outlived three of their children.

She was buried with her husband at St Martin's Church, Bladon, near Woodstock in Oxfordshire.



TOGETHER: Winston and Clementine on a boat on the Thames

The organisers of the Chartwell exhibition said: "From the outset of their marriage, Clementine undertook all duties common to MPs' wives at that time.

"She played political hostess, fulfilled a constituency role and supported Winston in his election campaigns.

"Initially Clementine liked Chartwell. She decorated the rooms, turn-

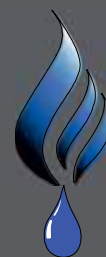
ing Chartwell into a comfortable family home. Later though, she became concerned about the costs in light of their financial struggles."

She sold some of her husband's famous paintings to make ends meet.

Katherine Carter, National Trust curator at Chartwell, said: "We're very excited to be able to bring Clementine's story to the fore this winter.

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HOME: The couple lived for many years at Chartwell which is now managed by the National Trust. All pictures: National Trust/Churchill Archives

She was a truly remarkable woman, who has all too often been overlooked in the history of the 20th century."

She added: "It's been wonderful to look in detail at her treasured possessions and objects that represent her extraordinary life. We're especially excited to be bringing some objects out on display for the first time."

Some 230,000 people pass through Chartwell's corridors annually for a glimpse into the great statesman's private life.

The exhibition is open daily from November 18 to February 18 between 11am and 3pm.

HOW CHARTWELL BECAME BRITAIN'S MOST FAMOUS HOME

THE wartime prime minister snapped up Chartwell as a home for his family in 1922.

It was an easy choice given the breath-taking views across the Weald of Kent.

But he also loved it for an additional reason - it was an ideal place for him to work, paint, write and entertain friends away from the pressures of political life in London, yet being close enough to

quickly return in the event of an emergency.

Although he purchased it without Lady Churchill's knowledge, it became a place of pleasure and great happiness for them and their children for more than 40 years, said the National Trust.

It was also at the heart of Churchill's political career and is inextricably linked with some of the major events of the 20th

century.

It was handed to the National Trust in 1946 by a consortium of Sir Winston's friends and colleagues, who purchased it from Sir Winston and Lady Churchill at a time when they felt they could no longer afford to keep it.

Churchill's friends wanted to ensure the house was safeguarded for the nation as a monument to Britain's greatest politician.

It was delivered to the trust on the condition that Sir Winston and Lady Churchill could live there until their deaths.

After Sir Winston died in 1965, Lady Churchill chose not to stay and, aided by her youngest daughter, Mary Soames, and her secretary, they arranged the house as it had been in the 1920s and 30s. The National Trust opened Chartwell to the public in 1966.

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STARS: All of the choir's members go to school in or near Canterbury and will be performing across the festive season

Girls' choir hits right note for Christmas with new album

Anna MacSwan on how the talented group's reputation is growing year-on-year

JUST three years since Canterbury Cathedral Girls' Choir was formed, its chorists will be teaming up with a major recording company, Decca Records, to release their first Christmas album.

The choir's members, all of whom attend secondary school in Canterbury or nearby, have gone from strength to strength since they made history in 2014, when they brought a 900-year-old tradition of male-only choirs at Canterbury Cathedral to an end.

At the beginning, the girls performed when boy chorists were on holiday. They have now become a major focus in the cathedral's choral calendar and regularly sing at services three to four times a month.

The 22 girls who rehearse with the choir each Wednesday, aged

between 12 and 18, have also made their mark at high-profile events, including a royal visit to Canterbury Cathedral from the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh and a service to mark the 20th anniversary of the ordination of women priests. They released their debut CD recording, a selection of music by Henry Purcell, in 2016.

Christmas with Canterbury Cathedral Girls' Choir is due to be released on December 1 and will include traditional festive carols including Silent Night, Away in a Manger and O Holy Night, and a foreword written by Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby.

Girls' choir director David Newsholme said: "It's a huge achievement that they have managed to record an album with such a prestigious label in such a short time after being founded.

"Recording this album has been a fascinating and rewarding experience for the girls and we are very much looking forward to its release.

"They have done extraordinary well in such a short time."

In a special tribute to the city's cathedral, there will also be a recording of Heaven Responds at Bethlehem, written especially for the girls to sing by Dean of Canterbury, the Reverend Dr Robert Willis. Cathedral bell-ringers and harpist Mary Morley will also feature on the album, which is being produced by the Grammy-winning Anna Barry, along with a world premiere recording of All Is Still, a new choral piece by composer Rebecca Dale.

The Christmas album follows the girls' debut performance at the cathedral's carol service last year,

when a female chorist sang a solo in Once in Royal's David City.

Newsholme says that recording a disc of carols "seemed like the logical next step". This festive season will see the girls' choir take part in all major services, including Advent, Christmas and Epiphany. On Saturday they were due to give their debut performance of Handel's famous oratorio, Messiah, in the nave of the cathedral, performing to a huge audience alongside the men of the Cathedral Choir and The Harmonious Society of Tickle-Fiddle Gentlemen, a period instrument orchestra.

Christmas with Canterbury Cathedral Girls' Choir is available for pre-order now at <https://decca.lnk.to/CanterburyGirlsLT>. A trailer can be viewed at <https://youtu.be/HLMarHjt1ZQ>.

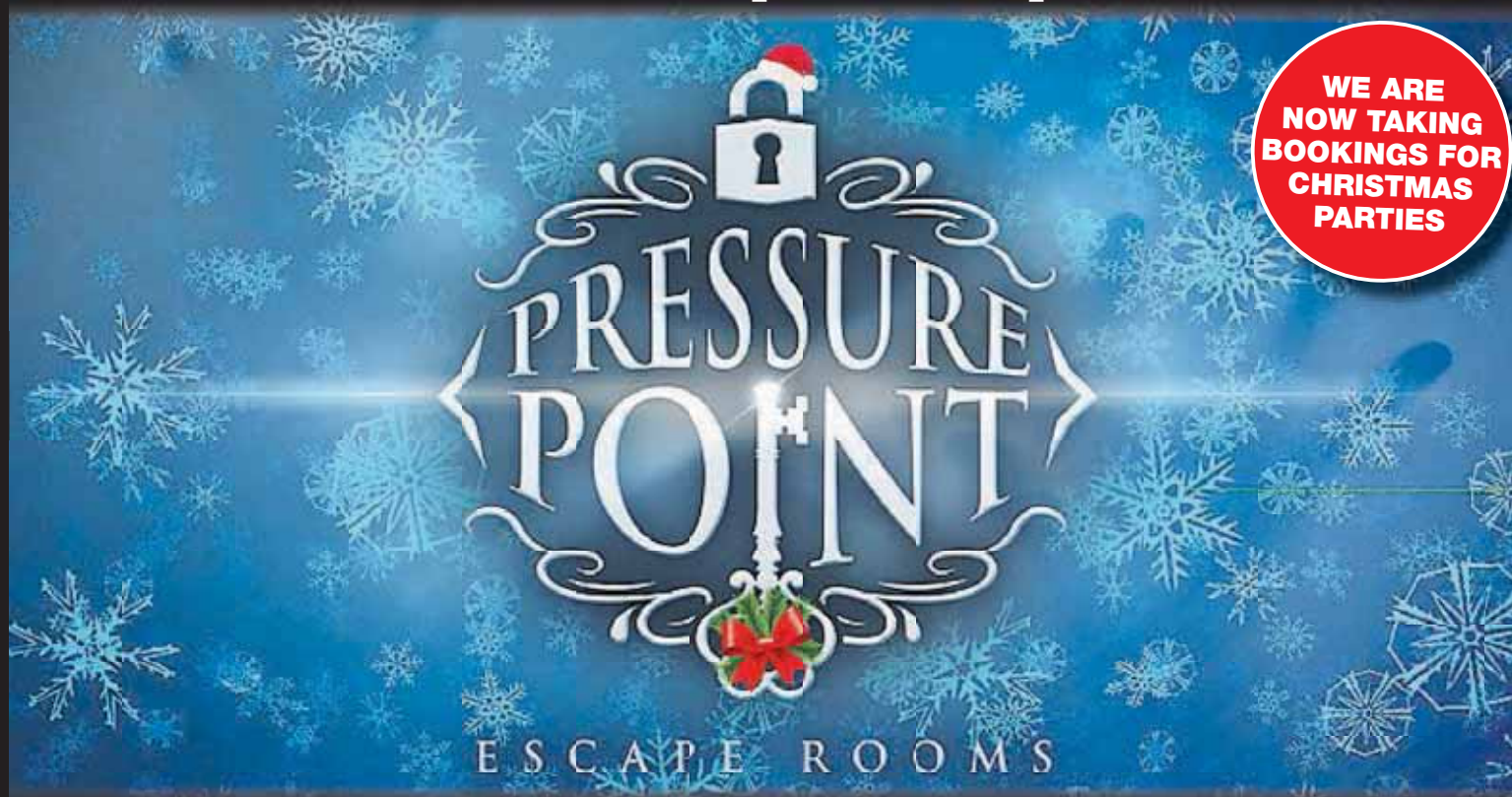
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Textiles inspired by Huguenot refugees come to Rochester

By Anna MacSwan

anna.macswan@archant.co.uk

INTERNATIONALLY-renowned textile artist and designer Margo Selby's innovative work is to be showcased in Rochester, in a partnership exhibition between the Rochester Art Gallery and the Huguenot Museum.

Margo Selby: Pick by Pick opens on December 14 and will feature new hand-woven framed textiles and a portfolio of work created over the Whitstable-based artist's 15 year career, and the extraordinary processes behind them.

Selby, who trained in textile design at Chelsea College of Art and Design and the Royal College of Art and worked as a woven textile designer for industrial mills on graduating, is known for using traditional weave structures to create colourful geometric works with a modernist feel. The pieces on display have been created using a technique called lampas, which was developed in the 17th century by French weavers and brought to England by Huguenot refugees.

Since moving to the Kent coast in 2012, she has been focusing on creating hand-woven framed



WEAVE: The exhibition will show the extraordinary techniques behind making textiles by hand

works as a way of exploring colour and construction. Selby has supplied prestigious boutiques, galleries and department stores with fabrics, rugs and accessories for many years.

This is her first solo show in a major UK gallery and most of the items on display will be on sale.

Rochester Art Gallery curator Allison Young said: "The meticulous design and weaving processes

employed by Margo are both complex and fascinating, the thought that goes into the structure, texture and colours of each unique piece, be it a framed work or a scarf, is remarkable and painstaking. I am sure visitors will be fascinated to learn more about how these outwardly simple pieces are created by hand, from sketch to loom."

The exhibition will be accompa-

nied with a programme of activities for all ages, including a talk by Selby about her career and the connection her artworks have with Huguenot weaving in December and a two-day weaving workshop in February.

Rochester Art Gallery and the Huguenot Museum are on Rochester High Street. Margo Selby: Pick by Pick runs from December 14 2017 to February 24.

Shappi's Mistress & Misfit

COMEDIAN, best-selling author and I'm a Celebrity contestant Shappi Khorsandi will be calling at Maidstone's Hazlitt Theatre next year. Tickets for Mistress and Misfit on May 25 are available now.



Panto stars light up town

THE stars of Tonbridge panto Peter Pan will be waiting in the wings to switch on the town's Christmas lights on Sunday November 26.

Festivities will continue with a fireworks display over Tonbridge Castle and are part of the Tonbridge Rotary Christmas Festival, which will take place from November 24-26.

Step back to the 1940s

LEARN what Christmas was like during the Second World War at Kent Life Heritage Farm Park on November 25-26. Christmas on the Home Front will include Home Guard drills and make do and mend lessons.



Nutcracker waltzes in

THE Nutcracker will be coming to Gillingham and Canterbury this Christmas in a production by Let's All Dance, which makes classic ballet accessible for children. Following sell-out performances last year, expect dazzling dancing and enchanting visuals. Tickets available now at www.lets-all-dance.co.uk.

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80s themed party night

THE ULTIMATE 80s Party Night is coming to the Orchard Theatre in Dartford next year.

Tropicana Nights promises favourite anthems and neon filled fun. Tickets for the show on April 6 cost £10.



Dickensian festive fun back

ROCHESTER High Street will be transformed into a Victorian scene with favourite fictional characters, reindeer and guaranteed snowfall during the Dickensian Christmas Festival on December 2-3.

The festival will celebrate the author's work with parades, carols and street performances.

Lemn Sissay at Marlowe

PERFORMANCE poet and Canterbury's poet laureate, Lemn Sissay MBE, will be at the Marlowe Theatre on March 29. The event will explore extraordinary tales of resilience and tickets are available now.



Poppy carpet unveiled

A KNITTED poppy carpet measuring more than 18 metres has been rolled out.

The carpet contains 10,000 poppies donated by residents and was unveiled at the Royal British Legion Industries' Garden of Honour in Aylesford on Remembrance Sunday. It had been launched at Tonbridge Castle last month.

A Christmas Carol and the art of storytelling

By Anna MacSwan

anna.macswan@archant.co.uk

FEW plays are as synonymous with yuletide as A Christmas Carol.

This year brings the opportunity to see the tale of Ebenezer Scrooge recreated in the way it was originally performed in the 1800s, by the author himself.

Unknown to many, Charles Dickens originally wanted to be an actor. Often in aid of charity, he gave riveting public performances of his work. A Christmas Carol was his first and he went on to enact it over 150 times, touring all over the UK and America. The author - who lived in Higham - was known for having a magnetic stage presence, expressive voice and wonderful powers of characterisation. He reportedly made more money from his readings than all of his novels and stories put together.

This authentic adaptation of the tale of Christmas past, present and future by the European Arts Company is based on Dickens' own public reading scripts and eyewitness accounts of him on



stage. Following on from a sell-out tour in 2016, there will be two chances to see it in his home county of Kent; at Maidstone's Hazlitt Theatre on December 16 and the Astor Theatre in Deal on December 20.

Stepping into Dickens' shoes will be the actor John O'Connor, who lives in Rochester, where a number of classic Dickens novels, including Great Expectations and David Copperfield, were set.

O'Connor studied drama at Manchester University and has

just returned from directing George Bernard Shaw's Pygmalion in Italy.

In honour of Dickens's passionate interest in the welfare of the poor and children in particular, this tour is in aid of the charity Barnardo's, which works with vulnerable and disadvantaged children across the UK.

A Christmas Carol has a running time of 90 minutes. Tickets for both shows are available now to book by contacting the box office.



SCROOGE: Classic character meets old colleague Marley



SCROOGE: John O'Connor performs the Dickens classic solo

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Lord Sugar on life in and out of the boardroom

Georgia Humphreys meets Lord Sugar and discovers a softer side to star of TV hit *The Apprentice*

SUITED and booted in the boardroom, a formidable business mogul, uttering that iconic line 'you're fired!'... that's the image of Lord Alan Sugar I have in my head.

And when I first meet him, looking at his body language alone, he lives up to those expectations.

He's leant right back on the sofa, his arms are crossed tightly across his chest, and he looks at me across the table... almost impatiently.

I'm half expecting him to ask to see my CV, Apprentice-style. But in fact he's refreshingly disarming.

Explains the 70-year-old: "I'm always a five-day-a-week man, weekends I never work, apart from special occasions where there's exhibitions

or seminars or something like that."

The London-born entrepreneur, who set up his first business - electronics company Amstrad - aged 21, also cracks more smiles than anticipated throughout our chat.

And he's especially animated when talking about mentoring the winners of past series of *The Apprentice*, currently half way through its 13th series. So, off-screen, is the intimidating Lord Sugar actually a bit of a softie at heart?

"Oh, real softie, absolutely; you should ask my wife," he quips.

"That's one of the problems of *The Apprentice* is that people are a little reluctant to talk to me because they think that ...the way I'm edited is it comes across as I'm a bit abrupt and



STAR: *The Apprentice* has proved a huge ratings winner

blunt and all that stuff.

"But that's not really me in real life," adds Lord Sugar, who married wife Ann in 1968, and has three children and seven grandchildren.

So does he ever worry the focus of the BBC One business competition is overshadowed by its humour and drama?

"It's a good balance, that's why the programme is so successful," he retorts, explaining: "There's an underlying business message in there which has really inspired youngsters from the age of 13 upwards. The BBC will tell you the viewing audience is from the age of 13, 14 upwards and *The Apprentice* inspires them to go into business.

"As you've seen with other pro-

grammes, when people start to try and tinker with things, it ends up as disastrous," he says when asked if he feels pressure to keep the show fresh.

"If it's not broke, you don't fix it." Does he ever worry about the way he comes across to viewers as *The Apprentice* boss?

"It doesn't worry me," he affirms. "It worries some of my family ... There's 140 hours of programming, some of it's quite fun, you see the funny side of things, the humorous side, the softer side of me in the boardroom.

"But that doesn't put bums on seats as far as the TV producers are concerned."

***The Apprentice* airs on BBC One every Wednesday at 9pm.**

Christmas craft fair

SHORT of inspiration for what to get loved ones this Christmas? You may not need to look further than the South East Artists Christmas Arts and Craft Fair.

At Ringwould Village Hall on November 25-26, ten artists from Deal and surrounding areas will be selling their work. The collection ranges from mosaics to ceramics to textiles and prints, many inspired by Kent's picturesque land and seascapes.

Elf Express returns

THE Elf Express is returning to Quex Park in Birchington this Christmas - and this year there will be additional stops for all the family to enjoy.

At first stop Elf Tower, Santa will be waiting at the top of a winding staircase with presents and stories for the children. After that, you are invited to venture through the brand new Elf Forest.

Book now at www.quexactivitycentre.com.

See best of British jazz

TICKETS are available for Folkestone Jazz Club's final gigs of 2017.

November 23 will see the Skelton/Skinner All Stars perform at the Tower Theatre and on November 30 the Simon Spillett Quartet will play Tubby Hayes.

A sextet led by Paul Lacey will play the swinging tunes of ex Basie trumpeter Harry "Sweets" Edison on December 7.

Contact Beryl on 01303 277175 to book.

Frosty themed fun

CHRISTMAS begins in Gravesend this week, with festive markets and an ice rink where families can skate for free every weekend accompanying the Christmas lights switch on.

Each Saturday from November 25 to December 16 will see a frostily themed fancy dress parade. For more information on Gravesham Borough Council's programme visit www.visitgravesend.co.uk/christmas.

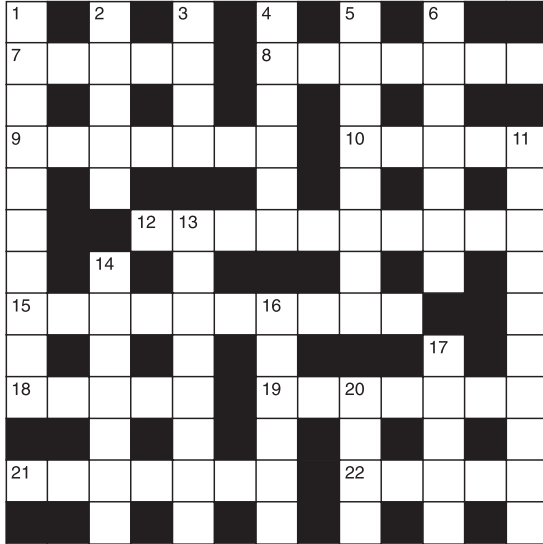


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- Souvenir (7)

- Lewd (7)

- Milk vessel (5)

Down

- Pale (10)
- Gusty (5)
- Fever (4)
- Glib talk (6)
- Compress (8)

- Terse (7)

- Entranced (10)

- Closed (8)

- Surpass (7)

- Force (6)

- Nose (5)

- Scoff (4)

Cryptic

Across

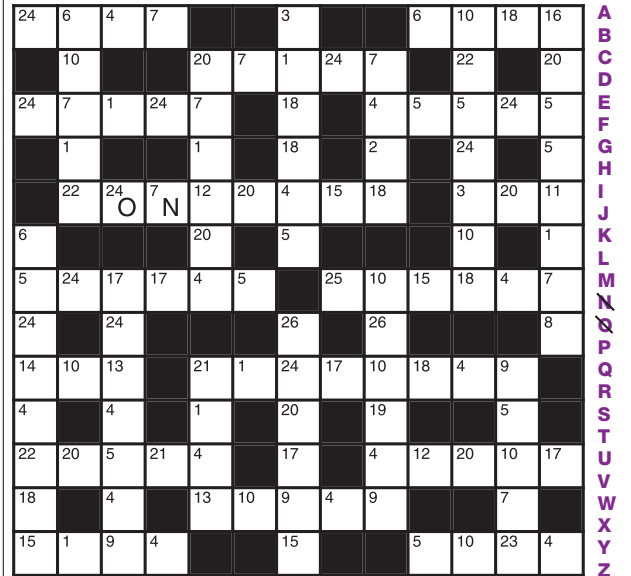
- Heather in the morning is leaving the continent (5)
- Part of the make-up of singularly bad weather? (7)
- Commended for repairing the stem of 1 (7)
- Given food and lodging dishonourably arranged (3,2)
- So pretence is involved in what everyone knows unofficially (4,6)
- See 20 Down.
- Set reach maturity without initial weakness (5)
- Does he see things in time ... (7)
- ... because again genuine? (7)
- The scoundrel built the King's Head next to part of church! (5)

Down

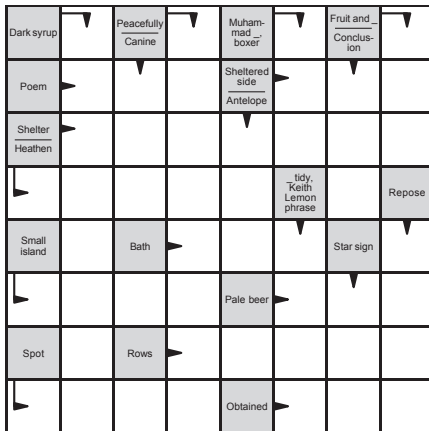
- Half the brides taking partners are inconsolable (10)
- Couch for meeting of dunderhead with terrible Russian (5)
- Entry permit for father to get on ship (4)
- No, dear - don't put the book down! (4,2)
- Naturally, spring is part of it (4,4)
- Greet us as something done for effect (7)
- Sent to a nunnery to get sorted out? (3,2,5)
- Is he more ready with the cues? (8)
- A sufficient reason for being stranded (7)
- Colour up after prisoner of war produces dust (6)
- In his panic, he attempted to deceive (5)
- 20 and 15Ac. Receive with good humour and understand fine role? (4,2,4,4)

CODEWORD

This puzzle has no clues. Instead, every number printed in the grid represents a letter, with the same number always representing the same letter. For example, if 8 turns out to be a V, you can write in V wherever a square contains 8. Using your knowledge of words, complete the puzzle.



Arrowword



Enter your answers in the direction indicated by the arrows.

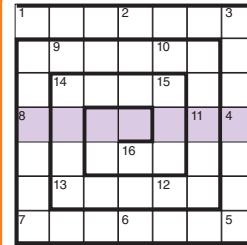
Battleships

Find where ships shown below are hidden in the grid. The numbers to the right of and below the grid indicate how many of the squares in that row are filled in with ships or parts of ships. The ships do not touch each other, even diagonally. Some of the squares have been filled to start you off.

THE FLEET
1 x Battleship
2 x Cruiser
3 x Destroyer
4 x Submarine



Word Spiral



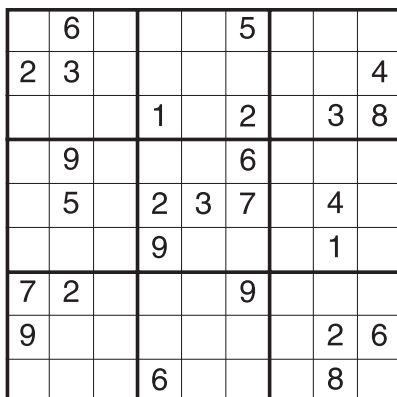
Starting from 1, fill in the grid clockwise with four-letter words. The last letter of each word becomes the first letter of the next to reveal the key word in the shaded boxes.

- Wound mark
- Frolic
- Couple
- Relax
- Petty quarrel
- Unightly fat
- Group of countries
- Price
- Speak
- Cabbage
- Dutch cheese
- Network
- Sword part
- Therefore
- Went quickly
- Intravenous food

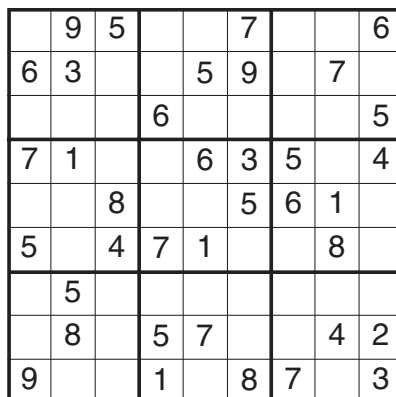
Keyword clue: A sailing ship

SUDOKU

Hard

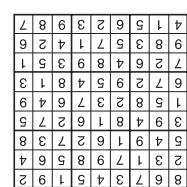


Easy

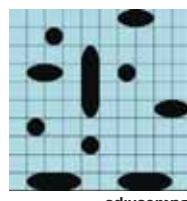


Word Spiral
24=O, 25=F, 26=M
21=V, 22=C, 23=K
18=T, 19=Z, 20=U
15=S, 16=H, 17=L
12=Q, 13=W, 14=J
9=Talk, 10=Kale, 11=Flab, 12=Rest, 13=Tiff, 14=Pair, 15=Rest, 16=Tiff, 17=Scout, 18=Romp, 19=Scar, 20=Romp, 21=Scar, 22=Romp, 23=Scout, 24=O, 25=F, 26=M
Keyword: Clipper

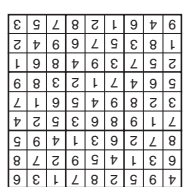
Double Crossword
3 Agree, 4 Pattern, 5
13 Unopened, 14
Element, 9 Praised,
10 Put up, 12 Open
secret, 15 in good
part, 18 Group, 19
Watch, 21 Sincere,
22 Knave, Down: 1
Despairing, 2 Divan:
3 Pass, 4 Head on, 5
Leap year, 6 Gesture:
1 Put in order, 13
Pompt, 14 Aground:
16 Powder, 17 Cheat:
Colourless, 2 Windy:
Churn, Down: 1
21 Obscene, 22
Slice, 19 Memento:
Encroached, 18
12 Quarantine, 15
8 Anomaly, 9
Oddment, 10 Dress:
6 Across, 7 Owning:
8 Across, 9
20 Take, 21
Quick



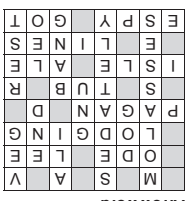
Sudoku - Hard



Battleships



Sudoku - Easy



Arrowword

Live the dream

As the launch of Virgin Holiday Experiences makes it easier than ever to craft a dream trip, Abi Jackson heads to this Polynesian paradise

When you're too old for Santa, there aren't many moments in life where you experience this-is-really-happening anticipation. But about 200-metres off the west coast of Hawaii Island, wet-suited and flipper-booted, I do.

I'm doing an Evening Manta Ray Snorkel Adventure with Fair Wind Cruises - one of the 300 'Experiences' Virgin Holidays has just introduced to their holiday packages. The sun's set, and me and about 15 others are clinging onto a special float. With more than 250 mantas - their wingspans can exceed 15ft - within a 30-mile stretch of this region, sightings

are a pretty safe bet. But as the minutes tick by, I can't help wondering, 'What if they don't show up tonight?'

Then, out of the blue, a huge pale creature glides towards us, opening his mouth into a gigantic gaping grin. Excited gasps ripple through the water - and then he's back, swimming so close I can see down his gills and feel the tips of his wings brush against my belly (snorkellers are forbidden from touching as it can damage the manta ray's delicate skin, but the manta can do as he pleases.)

After an hour in the water, I clamber back onto the boat, burping with seasickness but bubbling with delight. There was a time when experiences like this were the reserve of 'proper' adventurers. But that's fast changing -

we're no longer holidaymakers, we're holiday-doers, eager to make those precious weeks away really count. And that's what Virgin Holidays Experiences is all about.

How to get there

Virgin Holidays (virginholidays.co.uk; 0344 557 3859) offer a 14-night trip from £2,295pp (two sharing), including flights from London Heathrow to San Francisco, with a United Airlines connection to Honolulu. Stay seven nights at Outrigger Reef on Oahu, and seven nights at Hilton Waikoloa Village on Island of Hawaii. Based on March 12, 2018 departure. The Sunset Manta Ray Snorkel Experience costs from £72pp. A range of other 'Experiences' are also available. Also visit GoHawaii.com/UK.



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Grand Total				

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Please include your name and
 address, although these will be
 withheld in exceptional
 circumstances, and a daytime
 phone number for verification
 (this will not be published). We
 reserve the right to edit all letters.

KoS is victim of internet boom

I PICKED up a copy of KoS from Ashford station this morning and was saddened by the news that the paper is going to close.

We have lived in Kent for four years and on my commute into London I have enjoyed the local news you have covered in such a professional and informative manner. It certainly helped me to be aware of events, places to visit, the history of Kent and of course important local news.

People will miss local newspapers when they are gone. Blinded by the rise of the internet and people being too tight to pay for something that they should value, our communities are poorer for the absence of a strong local press. Progress is not always for the better in my eyes.

As your editorial said last week, you should be proud of the paper. It was very good. I for one will miss it.

Simon Courtenay,
via email

Sad to hear of paper's passing

IT'S really sad to hear that KoS is finishing, the newspaper has been a real asset to Kent's residents.

All the best to you and your team members for the future, you did a brilliant job.

Alan Blackburn,
Canterbury

Free paper so good I'd pay for it

I WAS very sad to hear the news of KoS's closure.

I have relied on it to keep in touch with county wide events as well as the local take on national issues.

Being free was a bonus but I would happily pay for a copy.

Gerald Carr,
Gravesend

Closure is a sign of the times

I WAS so very sorry to learn that KoS is to cease. It is such a loss.

Such a smart, well designed newspaper; great style and typography; excellent reporters and pretty loyal advertisers.

Back in the 1960s, I was at a wholesaler distributors for national newspapers based in Folkestone. I find it hard to believe now, we used to have six separate editions of the Evening Standard and had five street sellers. How things have changed these days.

Sadly social media has had a direct

LETTER OF THE WEEK



Is development being fairly distributed?

I AM sorry this paper is about to close, leaving the field clear for social media, with all its distortions; from now on it's fake news, deranged conspiracy theories and divisive political sloganeering. Well done everyone, your dystopia awaits you.

But let's look at something local. Most of Kent and especially west Kent hardly exceeds the six per cent average for built on land across the UK. The two northern districts of Dartford and Gravesham have a figure for built on land in the mid 20 per cent range, Medway has 32 per cent and Thanet in the east has 27 per cent. So each can say they have done their bit.

Much of this is historical and based on an industrial past. Only Thanet has a minimal one per cent area of natural landscape, but it is expected to take the heavy lifting on housing and development. Everywhere else has considerably more natural or urban green space and farmland, yet their contribution to the required amount of housing is parsimonious.

Most of the urban green space in Thanet lies in Broadstairs, Margate and the north Thanet coast. Ramsgate consists almost entirely of continuous urban terrain and little else and no one is suggesting a replication of that type of development across Kent.

People have to live somewhere and trucks need parking. If you want a working economy; compromises have to be made and its time that everyone took a wider perspective and stopped dumping all their problems in the east or by ignoring the very serious housing crisis.

Instead of moaning about development, insist on it being done to a standard higher than the miserably low standards that planners and the big six builders deliver.

I am no fan of property developers, but it ill behoves those with nice houses or second homes to criticise others who want a home of their own.

George Noakes
Dover

effect on people's habits in my opinion.

Tony Jewell,
via email

Social media is not the same

I AM very sorry to hear that KoS is to close. Not only do such publications print interesting articles about matters of concern, but they also provide a forum where reasonable people can comment on important events, using considered and sensible arguments.

This contrasts with social media, which is dominated by those who seem ignorant of facts, and who consider that personal abuse is the right way to conduct a debate.

The country is much the poorer for the demise of so many local publications, and it is particularly unfair of those who do not have access to the internet.

Digital platforms are obviously convenient for many, but are no substitute for a thriving print media. I hope that those now losing their positions will soon find new ones suitable for their talents.

Colin Bullen,
Tonbridge

KoS closure is a 'tragedy'

WHAT a tragedy! One of Kent's finest newspapers closing!

I have read and valued nearly every issue, and greatly appreciated the coverage, readability, and impartiality.

And as an amateur photographer, I have appreciated the unpretentious excellence of presentation - none of this fashionable nonsense of (so it seems) dropping prints at random onto a flatbed scanner.

My very best wishes to you and your colleagues at this difficult and distressing time for you all.

John Kemp,
Whitstable

Congratulations on job well done

I'M just one of your many ordinary readers saddened to read KoS will cease.

Please accept my admiration and thanks for a job well done by you and your team over many years.

Peter Blem,
via email

The final (!) Ray Duff letter

IN reply to Harry Williams [KoS, letters, last week], I am not at all bothered whether anyone replies to my letters; though I have to say I'm very glad they seem to annoy him.

Further, and as he well knows, I am more than capable of doing so; especially to demolish, as I have in the past, the views in his own missives.

That said, I am very sorry to hear about the closure to KoS and would like to send my good wishes to the editor and staff for the future and for all their hard work over the years. Also to thank them; and their predecessors; for running my missives; and albeit a while ago some articles; in the paper.

Finally may I wish all readers; even those such as Phil Granger, but not Mr Williams, in my alt--fan club; an albeit early Seasons Greetings and Happy New Year.

Ray Duff,
Folkestone

KoS editor writes:

I WOULD like to pass on my thanks to all those readers who have been in touch this week - the above is just a selection we have received.

The letters page of KoS has been a real asset to the paper over the years and that's all thanks to you all. We have one issue left - so please keep them coming. **Chris Britcher**

KOS 10 GUIDING PRINCIPLES

AS part of our commitment to providing the best service to you, we have produced our 10 guiding principles

Kent on Sunday will:

- 1) Be available in every postcode in Kent.
- 2) Be fair, accurate and balanced.
- 3) Be written in clear, concise English.

- 4) Not be overly sensational.
- 5) Have a sense of humour.
- 6) Have an easily understood division between news, comment and advertising.
- 7) Seek to celebrate as well as constructively criticise.
- 8) Highlight topical issues of concern to

people living in the county.

- 9) Spotlight individual cases which raise broader concerns.

- 10) Champion causes that it feels are important to the well-being of the county and its people.

We hope you enjoy Kent on Sunday.



Bandstand on the Leas, Folkestone
by **Brian Summers**
from **Faversham**

To see your photograph printed, email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk. Be sure to include your name, address and a contact telephone number. Unfortunately we cannot return any prints, and please do not send negatives.

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.....
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A Beaney exhibition organised in partnership with
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department, with special thanks to Evolution Productions.

Co-curated with Jo Dyer,
Animate Arts Company.

University of
Kent

EVOLUTION PRODUCTIONS

Image: Ben Roddy as Mrs Smee in Peter Pan, this year's Morlowe Theatre pantomime. Copyright: Tim Stubbings



STYLE: Grandland X completes Vauxhall's sport utility vehicle range. Picture: Vauxhall



Technology at the heart of Vauxhall's Grandland X

AND then there were three – Vauxhall completes its sport utility vehicle range with the large Grandland X.

Joining the Crossland X and Mokka X, the Grandland X is available to order, priced from £22,310 on the road, and arrives in showrooms next month.

The new SUV, expected to have a 75/25 retail/fleet split, has elevated seating for five people, generous luggage space, good all-round visibility and a raft of safety technologies.

The Grandland X also introduces Vauxhall's innovative IntelliGrip traction control system, an optional electronic system with five driving modes – normal on-road, snow, mud, sand and deactivating stability and traction control – to give the best grip and stable handling on any surface. At launch, there are 130PS 1.2-litre turbo petrol and 120PS 1.6-litre turbo diesel, both six-speed manual or automatic transmission.

The petrol engine offers up to 55.4mpg combined with CO2 emissions as low as 117g/km, the diesel up to 70.6mpg and CO2 from 104g/km.

At 4,477mm long, 1,856mm wide, 1,609mm high and with a long wheelbase of 2,675mm, the new Vauxhall Grandland X has space for up to five people and 514-litre boot, rising to a maximum of



1,652 litres with rear seats folded down.

The Grandland X offers a selection of ultra-modern assistance and comfort features – standard equipment includes LED daytime running lights, camera-based lane departure warning, road sign recognition, intelligent cruise control and air conditioning with particulate and odour filter.

Other safety features available include automatic emergency braking, driver drowsiness alert, advanced park assist and blind spot alert.

Smartphones can easily be integrated to the infotainment system and charged wirelessly as an option.

Kia urban warrior fighting for attention

The compact crossover market is booming, and Kia bosses are hoping to cash in on this growth with the new Stonic model. Simon Davis gets behind the wheel.

THE compact sport utility vehicle market is hot property, with more manufacturers staking their claim in the increasingly popular segment.

Kia's new Stonic combines handsome looks with funky colours, solid build quality and attractive prices.

While this is a new sector for Kia, and indeed a new car, we've seen much of the Stonic before as it shares its platform and 1.0-litre turbo petrol engine with the Rio supermini.

Buyers will find the Stonic an appealing proposition with its added passenger and load space, and greater sense of security that higher-riding cars seem to bring.

The 1.0-litre, three-cylinder turbo petrol engine develops a modest 118bhp and 171Nm to give respectable performance with power sent to the front wheels via a six-speed manual transmission. There's also a 98bhp 1.4-litre petrol and a 108bhp 1.6-litre turbo diesel.

Like the smaller Rio, the Stonic is incredibly easy to drive. The pedals are well-weighted, the six-speed gearbox has an assertive action and steering provides decent feedback so



low-speed manoeuvres are a doddle – a good thing as the Stonic will likely spend much of its time in urban driving.

Handling-wise, the taller stature means there is a considerable amount of lean through bends and

the Stonic is a capable cruiser but there's noticeable tyre roar.

In this specification, the Stonic looked really smart, not the cheap and cheerful sort of car Kia was known for years ago.

However, with many characterful



newcomers, the Stonic might struggle to stand out.

If flying under the radar is more your thing, then you'll likely find the unpretentious exterior a strong draw.

Inside, cheap, scratchy plastics will

Kia Stonic

Price: **from £16,295**
Engine tested: **1.0-litre, 118bhp three-cylinder turbo petrol**
Performance: **0-60mph 9.9 seconds; top speed 115mph**
MPG: **56.5 combined**
CO2 emissions: **115g/km**

stand up to the rough and tumble of family life, but don't do any favours on the aesthetic front. While there's good headroom in the back for an average-sized adult, kneeroom is tight. Boot space is a respectable 352 litres.

Range-topping First Edition equipment includes satellite navigation, smartphone connectivity through Bluetooth, Android Auto and Apple CarPlay, keyless entry and heated front seats to name but a few.

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LEGAL AND PUBLIC NOTICES

Section 48 Planning Act 2008

Regulation 4 Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009

THANET EXTENSION OFFSHORE WIND FARM NOTICE PUBLICISING A PROPOSED APPLICATION FOR A DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER

Notice is hereby given that Vattenfall Wind Power Ltd (**the Applicant**) of First Floor, 1 Tudor Street, London, EC4Y 0AH proposes to apply to the Secretary of State under Section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 for the above-mentioned Development Consent Order (**the Application**).

The Application relates to the construction and operation of an extension to the existing Thanet Offshore Wind Farm off the coast of Thanet, Kent (**the Project**), to be located approximately 8km offshore (at the closest point). The proposed offshore wind farm will cover an offshore area of approximately 70km² and will connect to the 400kV transmission network via underground cables to the National Grid substation at Richborough, Kent. The Applicant will construct its own substation at Richborough Port.

The proposed Development Consent Order will, amongst other things, authorise:

- 1 Offshore wind turbines and foundations (up to 34 wind turbines to provide an installed capacity of up to 340MW);
- 2 Undersea cables between the wind turbines, one operational meteorological mast, Floating Lidar Device (FLD) and wave buoys (if required) and offshore substation (if required);
- 3 Up to 4 offshore undersea export cables to transmit electricity from the offshore substation or wind farm array to the shore;
- 4 A landfall located at Pegwell Bay with onshore transition pits to connect the offshore and onshore cables;
- 5 Onshore underground cables (either 66kV or 132kV) with jointing pits, extending approximately 2.5km to transmit electricity to a new onshore substation at Richborough Port;
- 6 An onshore substation at Richborough Port to convert electricity from 66/132kV to 400kV, and up to two underground cables at 400kV to connect the Vattenfall substation to the National Grid substation at the nearby Richborough Energy Park;
- 7 The permanent and/or temporary compulsory acquisition of land and/or rights for the Project where required;
- 8 Overriding of easements and other rights over or affecting land for the Project;
- 9 The application and/or disapplication of legislation relevant to the Project including inter alia legislation relating to compulsory purchase; and
- 10 Such ancillary, incidental and consequential provisions, permits or consents as are necessary and/or convenient.

The Project is subject to an Environmental Impact Assessment development under Schedule 2 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017. Accordingly, the Applicant will be making preliminary environmental information available for consultation. Copies of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) may be inspected free of charge at the following locations and during the hours set out below:

Local Deposit Locations (to view the full Preliminary Environmental Information Report)

Birchington Library

17 Alpha Rd, Birchington, Kent, CT7 9EG
Opening hours: 9am-6pm weekdays
(closed Wednesday). Saturday: 10am-2pm.
(Non-technical summary/full electronic copy available)

Cliffsend Village Hall

Foads Lane, Cliffsend, CT12 5JH
Please contact Melanie Rogers on 07817 944359 to make an appointment.
(Non-technical summary/hard copy available)

Margate Library

Cecil Street, Margate, CT9 1RE
Opening hours: 9am-6pm weekdays
(except Thurs: 9am-8pm). Saturday: 9am-5pm.
(Non-technical summary/hard copy available)

Broadstairs Library

The Broadway, Broadstairs, CT10 2BS
Opening hours: 9am-6pm weekdays
(except Thurs: 9am-8pm). Saturday: 9am-5pm.
(Non-technical summary/hard copy available)

Ramsgate Library

2 Guildford Lawn, Ramsgate, CT11 9AY
Opening hours: 9am-6pm weekdays. Saturday: 9am-5pm.
(Non-technical summary/hard copy available)

Vattenfall Wind Power Limited

Military Road, Ramsgate, CT11 9LG
Please contact Melanie Rogers on 07817 944359 to make an appointment.
(Non-technical summary/hard copy available)

Sandwich Library

13 Market Street, Sandwich, CT13 9DA
Opening hours: 9am-5pm. Wednesdays and Saturday 9am-1pm.
(Non-technical summary/full electronic copy available)

Dover Gateway

White Cliffs Business Park, Dover, CT16 3PJ
Opening hours: Monday to Friday 9am-12pm, 2pm-5pm.
(Non-technical summary/hard copy available)

Dover Library

Market Square, Dover, CT16 1NX
Opening hours: 9am-6pm weekdays
(Wednesdays: 9am-8pm). Saturday: 9am-5pm.
(Non-technical summary/hard copy available)

Deal Library

5 Broad Street, Deal, CT14 6ER
Opening hours: 9am-6pm weekdays.
Saturday: 9am-5pm and Sundays: 10am-4pm.
(Non-technical summary/full electronic copy available)

Canterbury City Council

Military Road, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 1YW
Copy only available on CCC's website – www.canterbury.gov.uk/

Kent County Council

Sessions House Reception, County Hall, Maidstone, ME14 1XQ. Please contact Melanie Rogers on 07817 944359 to make an appointment.
(Non-technical summary/hard copy available)

Sheerness Library

Sheppey Gateway, 38-42 High Street, Sheerness, Kent, ME12 1NL
Opening hours: 9am-6pm weekdays.
Saturday: 9am-5pm. (Non-technical summary/full electronic copy available)

Essex County Council

County Hall, Market Road, Chelmsford, CM1 1QH
Please contact Melanie Rogers on 07817 944359 to make an appointment.
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The opening times of those locations listed are at the discretion of those in control of the building and could vary to the times set out in this notice. Calling ahead to make an appointment is recommended.

The organisations and locations providing access to documentation as part of this formal consultation are not in any way affiliated with the Project or Vattenfall and are an independent and neutral party to the consultation process.

The documents, plans and maps relating to the proposed Development Consent Order for the Project will be on display at the above locations and times and available for inspection free of charge from **Monday 27 November 2017** until **Friday 12 January 2018**

The documents can also be downloaded from www.vattenfall.co.uk/thanetextension free of charge. Due to the size of the documents, a copying charge of £1000 will be made for reproduction of hard copy format of the PEIR. Further details in relation to the Project can be found on the Applicant's website at www.vattenfall.co.uk/thanetextension

The PEIR will be on display and members of the Project team will be available to answer queries at Public Information Days being held by the Applicant at the following locations and times:

Local Public Information Days

Royal Temple Yacht Club

6 Westcliff Mansions, Ramsgate, Kent CT11 9HY
5th December, 2017. 2pm-7pm

Queens Road Baptist

2 Queens Road, Broadstairs, Kent, CT10 1NU
6th December, 2017. 2pm-6pm

The Turner Contemporary

Rendezvous, Margate, Kent, CT9 1HG
7th December, 2017. 2pm-7pm

The Guildhall

Cattle Market, Sandwich, Kent, CT13 9AH
8th December, 2017. 2pm-7pm

Cliffsend Village Hall

Foads Lane, Cliffsend, CT12 5JH
9th December, 2017. 10am-5pm

The Astor Theatre

Stanhope Road, Deal, CT14 6AB
13th December, 2017. 2pm-7pm

The Botany Bay Hotel

The Kingsgate Function Room, Marine Drive, Kingsgate, Broadstairs, Kent, CT10 3LG
6th January, 2018. 10am-5pm

Local pop-up events during formal consultation

We would like to ensure that as wide a range of views as possible are considered in the consultation events. Several bespoke events have been organised, and in addition we are going to have a small presence at the following venues, to speak to people, discuss the project, and encourage wider participation:

Innovation House (Reception Area)

Discovery Park, Ramsgate Road, Sandwich, CT13 9FF
12th December, 2017 10am-2.30pm

The Co-op

27 Park Street, Deal, CT14 6AG
13th December, 2017 10am-5pm

Bettshanger Park

Sandwich Road, Deal, CT14 0BF
14th December, 2017 10am-5pm

The Co-op

78-80 Station Road, Birchington, CT7 9RA
18th December, 2017 10am-5pm

The Co-op

Moat Sole Road, Sandwich, CT13 9AL
5th January, 2018 10am-5pm

The Community Hub (next to Claire's Accessories)

Westwood Cross Shopping Centre, 23 Margate Rd, Broadstairs, CT10 2BF, 7th January, 2018 10am-5pm

Wilkos

21-31 York St, Ramsgate, CT11 9DS
8th January, 2018 10am-5pm

Tesco Metro

25 High Street, Broadstairs, CT10 1LP
9th January, 2018 10am-5pm

Have your say

Any responses or other representations in respect of the Project should be sent to the Applicant by one of the following methods:

Website: www.vattenfall.co.uk/thanetextension

Email: info@thanetextension.com

Tel: Julie Drew-Murphy on +44 (0)300 303 3061

Post: FREEPOST: Vattenfall TEOW Project

Any response or representation in respect of the proposed Development Consent Order MUST (i) be received by the Applicant on or before **5pm on Friday 12 January 2018** (ii) be made in writing, (iii) state the grounds of the response or representation and (iv) indicate who is making the response or representation, and (v) give an address to which correspondence relating to the response or representation may be sent.

Responses and other representations will be made public; however comments will not be attributed to individuals.

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M20 MOTORWAY, JUNCTIONS 6 – 8 (NEAR MAIDSTONE) TEMPORARY TRAFFIC RESTRICTIONS

Notice is hereby given that Highways England Company Limited intends to make an Order on the M20 Motorway in the County of Kent, under Section 14(1)(a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 because works are proposed to be executed on the road.

The effect of the Order would be to authorise the overnight closure of:-

1. the coast-bound carriageway of the M20 between Junction 6 (A229) and Junction 8 (A20);
2. the London-bound carriageway of the M20 between Junction 8 (A20) and Junction 7 (A249);
3. the coast-bound distributor road between the exit slip road at Junction 6 (A229) and the merge point with the M20 at Junction 6 (A229); and
4. all of the slip roads leading to and from the lengths of carriageway described in 1. and 2.

These measures would be in the interests of road safety while contractors undertake carriageway works, structural works, drainage works, technology works and all associated works.

It is expected that the work would last for approximately 10 days starting on or after Wednesday 13th December 2017. The overnight closures would take place between 20:00 and 06:00 (maximum period). The Order would come into force on 11 December 2017 and have a maximum duration of eighteen months.

Traffic affected by the closures would be diverted using the M2, M20, A229, A249 and A251.

The temporary closures and diversion routes would be clearly indicated by traffic signs when they are in operation during the works period.

M Taylor, an Official of Highways England Co Ltd.
Ref: HE/SE/2017/M20/224

Highways England Company Limited,
(Company No. 9346363). Registered Office:
Bridge House, Walnut Tree Close, Guildford, Surrey,
GU1 4LZ. A company registered in England and Wales.

For enquiries, please contact the Customer Contact
Centre on 0300 123 5000 or info@highwaysengland.co.uk
http://www.highways.gov.uk



THE A2070 TRUNK ROAD (A2042 PARK FARM JUNCTION - ASHFORD) TEMPORARY OVERNIGHT SLIP ROAD CLOSURES

Notice is hereby given that Highways England Company Limited(a) intends to make an Order on the A2070 Trunk Road, near Ashford in the County of Kent, under Section 14(1)(a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 because works are proposed to be executed on the road.

The effect of the Order would be to authorise the phased overnight closure of all the slip roads leading to and from the A2070 and A2042 at Park Farm Junction.

These measures would be in the interests of road safety to enable contractors to undertake cyclical maintenance.

It is expected that the work would take place for approximately 2 nights for each slip road every two months between 20:00 and 05:00 (maximum period).

The Order would come into force on 17 December 2017 and have a maximum duration of twelve months.

During the closures outlined above, traffic would be diverted to Orbital Park Roundabout on the A2070 (Bad Munstereifel Road) and return, or to the Avenue Jacques Fauchaux Roundabout on the A2042 and return. The diversion in operation would vary according to the closure in force.

The closures and diversion routes would be clearly indicated by traffic signs throughout the works periods.

M Taylor, an official of Highways England Company Limited.
Ref: HA/A2070/35/3/2279

(a) Registered in England and Wales under company no 9346363. Registered office Bridge House, Walnut Tree Close, Guildford, Surrey, GU1 4LZ.

General Enquiries relating to this notice may be made by contacting Highways England's Customer Contact Centre on 0300 123 5000 or by email at info@highwaysengland.co.uk
http://www.highways.gov.uk



A2 TRUNK ROAD UPPER HARBLEDOWN - WHITFIELD SLIP ROADS TEMPORARY TRAFFIC RESTRICTIONS

Notice is hereby given that Highways England Company Limited(a) intends to make an Order on the A2 Trunk Road in the County of Kent, under Section 14(1)(a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, because works are proposed to be executed on the road.

The effect of the Order would be to authorise the overnight closure of the following slip/link roads on the A2:

- (a) the road leading from the coast-bound carriageway at Harbledown Interchange (A2050);
- (b) the road leading from the London-bound carriageway at Wincheap Interchange (A28);
- (c) the road leading from the London-bound carriageway at New Dover Road Interchange (A2050);
- (d) the roads leading to and from both carriageways at Bishopsbourne Junction (Coldharbour Lane);
- (e) the roads leading from both carriageways to the A260 at Barham Interchange (A260/B2046);
- (f) the roads leading to and from both carriageways at Honeywood Interchange near Whitfield (A256).

These measures would be in the interests of road safety while contractors undertake cyclical maintenance.

It is expected that the work would take place for approximately 2 nights for each slip/link road every two months between 20:00 and 05:00 (maximum period).

The Order would come into force on 17 December 2017 and have a maximum duration of twelve months.

During the closures outlined above, traffic affected would be diverted using other junctions of the A2, and the A28, A257, A290 and A2050. The diversions would vary depending on the closure in place.

The slip/link road closures and diversion routes would be clearly indicated by traffic signs throughout the works periods.

M Taylor, an Official of Highways England Co Ltd.
Ref: HA/A2/35/3/2280

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General Enquiries relating to this notice may be made by contacting Highways England's Customer Contact Centre on 0300 123 5000 or by email at info@highwaysengland.co.uk
http://www.highways.gov.uk

PUBLIC NOTICE LICENSING ACT 2003

Notice is hereby given that Karan Patel has applied to Tunbridge Wells Borough Council for the grant of a new premises licence for 52-56 Liptraps Lane Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 3AA to allow the following licensable activity: The sale by retail of alcohol for consumption off the premises only during the following hours: Monday to Sunday: 06:00HOURS TO 23:00HOURS. Any person wishing to view details of an application may contact the Licensing Partnership on 01732 227004. Any person wishing to make representation about the application should make them in writing on or before the 8th December 2017 to Licensing Partnership, PO Box 182 Sevenoaks Kent TN13 1GP licensing@sevenoaks.gov.uk http://pa.sevenoaks.gov.uk/online-licensing. It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. The maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary of conviction for the offence is unlimited. 7516081

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The continuing growth of our business has resulted in a vacancy for the following staff:

Pre-Assessment Sister – Maternity Cover (Margate)

Full Time – 37.5 hours per week

Salary – £29,500 per annum

Closing Date – Ongoing

Interview Date – To be confirmed

Qualifications and Experience

- Registered Nurse/ (or equivalent dependent on experience)
- Assessing/Mentoring Course or equivalent (ENB 998)
- Pre-assessment/anaesthetics/recovery/surgical ward experience
- Ability to initiate changes in daily service provision of Pre Assessment
- Able to supervise staff
- Able to demonstrate clinical, technical and teaching expertise

To discuss these opportunities, or to arrange an informal visit, please contact:

Carolyn Flegg, Outpatients Manager on 01843 234569

Staff Nurse Ward (Margate)

Part Time – 22.5 hours per week

Salary – Dependent upon experience

Closing Date – Ongoing

Interview Date – To be confirmed

Qualifications and Experience

- Registered Nurse 1st Level
- Evidence of continual professional development
- Experience in a surgical/medical environment with a knowledge and understanding of surgical/medical procedures
- Demonstrates a patient focus approach
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- Ability to work independently and as part of a multi-disciplinary team
- Committed to providing a quality clinical service

To discuss this opportunity, or to arrange an informal visit, please contact:

Liz Justice, Ward Manager on 01843 235012

Previous applicants need not apply

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www.spencerprivatehospitals.com/careers

Alternatively, please contact Daisy Bannister, HR Assistant

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Conway gears up for season finale

Sevenoaks star looking to end the campaign on a high note

Motorsport

By Tom Pyman

tom.pyman@archant.co.uk

SEVENOAKS star Mike Conway aims to end the 2017 FIA World Endurance Championship on a high this weekend as he heads east to compete in the final race of the season - the Bapco 6 Hours of Bahrain.

The 5.412km Bahrain International Circuit features fast sweeping corners combining with long straights and a number of tight, heavy braking corners that provide plenty of opportunities for overtaking.

One of Bromley-born racer's favourites for the year, on his four previous visits to the track he has reached the podium three times - including victory in the LMP2 Class in 2013 and his first LMP1 race win with Toyota in 2014.

The 2017 campaign has been a difficult one for Conway and the #7 TS050 Hybrid as their four pole positions have yet to be converted into a race win this season.

However, with both the drivers' and manufacturers' title wrapped up in Shanghai, Conway may feel the pressure reduced somewhat when he takes to the track this weekend, with him and his team hoping to set the record straight and reach the top of the podium for the first time since Fuji last year.

"Bahrain is one of my favourite races so I am looking forward to going there and hopefully getting the win for car #7," he said.

"We have been pushing for that all year. We have had four pole positions so we have to convert that to a win at



FOCUS: Mike Conway is looking to impress in Bahrain this weekend

some point.

"We learned a lot in Shanghai about tyre wear and Bahrain is a similar circuit in that regard, so hopefully that will be to our advantage."

Hisatake Murata, Toyota team president, added: "We are very motivated to finish the season with a victory in Bahrain, especially as that would give us the most wins in 2017."

"Porsche has proved their strength with another World Championship so they are clearly tough competitors."

"We will be pushing as hard as possible to give the fans an exciting battle for the final LMP1 competition between Toyota and Porsche."

"After our strong performances in Fuji and Shanghai, we are ready to fight in Bahrain."

Scholars sign academy programme contracts

Cricket

A TRIO of new scholars have signed contracts for the 2017/18 Kent Cricket Academy programme.

Left-arm pace bowler Ben Mills, opening batsman Kashif Ali and England Women's Academy all-rounder Izzy Cloke will be part of an eight-strong programme of specialist coaching and personal development sessions.

Whitstable seamer Mills, 15, has represented Kent at under-15 and under-17 level and impressed at this year's Bunbury Festival. Right-hander Ali, 19, played in Kent's second XI and can also bowl leg spin.

Cloke, 17, was a regular in the senior Kent side and was recently selected in the England Women's



HOME: Spitfire Ground

Senior Academy squad.

High performance director Jason Weaver said: "We've selected a smaller pool of players for this year's

academy group."

"Thanks to the support of Kent Reliance, we can provide a focussed programme that provides high quality coaching and support that incorporates a total life approach."

"We have had a good track record of producing professional cricketers and, by working closely with our partners, our aim is for this to continue."

Wicketkeeper Jordan Cox, all-rounders Isaac Dilkes, Julian O'Riordan and Joe Gordon and seamer Tom Davis retain their places on the academy programme with another eight associate scholars increasing the playing pool.

The associate scholars will receive support and development opportunities to help them gain a place on the full academy in years to come.

Sport Shorts

» Email sports@kosmedia.co.uk or call Tom Pyman on 01233653477

Gills name Lovell boss until end of campaign

GILLINGHAM have appointed Steve Lovell as their permanent boss until at least the end of the season.

Lovell took charge of first team affairs, initially on a caretaker basis, on October 12 and has since won four of his seven games in charge, two of those wins coming against Peterborough and Rotherham.

He has also helped guide the club to the second round of the FA Cup after defeating Leyton Orient 2-1 at Priestfield at the start of November and was nominated for October's League One Manager of the Month award.

Lovell said: "I knew I had a chance. I believed in my own ability and it's important now to keep the players on top of their game."

"It's lovely to be in this position. The boys are confident, they're fit and if the performances are right we shouldn't have a problem against anybody."

"It's a great feeling, I've enjoyed the last few weeks and it's something I'm very proud of."



BOSS: Steve Lovell



MANAGER: Dover's Chris Kinnear

DEP Arsenal trainee Jeffrey

FORMER Arsenal trainee Anthony Jeffrey has joined Dover Athletic on loan from Sutton United until the end of January.

The 23-year-old, who played against Whites in the 2-2 draw at Gander Green Lane in October, joined National League rivals Sutton from Forest Green Rovers last July and has made 11 appearances for the U's this season.

While he was with Forest Green, Jeffrey - who started his career coming through the academy at the Premier League giants - spent last season on loan at Boreham Wood where he made 26 appearances and scored three goals.

He said on Twitter: "Time to get to work. Happy to be joining Dover Athletic on loan until January. Let's go."

Barnsley trial for promising teen

ONE of Bromley's most promising young players has begun a three-week trial at Championship side Barnsley.

Ola Williams has been granted permission by the Ravens to train and play in Barnsley's academy programme during his trial period.

Bromley's academy director Mark Hammond told the club's official

website this week: "It's an amazing opportunity for Ola, it's great to see that our club and academy are being recognised within the professional game."

"It is important to develop our own home grown talent but nevertheless it is great to see our players, like Ola, be given an opportunity to progress further within the wider game."

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